The Middlebury Campus

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Wygmans Re-elected State's Attorney After Two-Day Recount

By CAROLINE KAPP
News Editor

"Count well," Dennis Wygmans' attorney Willem Jeweet jokingly called over his shoulder, a gesture illustrative of the cordial, friendly atmosphere that characterized the vote recount of the Addison County state's attorney race.

The recount ended Tuesday evening after two days of counting. Wygmans, the incumbent, maintained his victory over Bevere and widened his winning margin to 21 votes.

In the original count, Wygmans had beaten challenger Peter Bevere by a mere nine votes.

"No one expects to win or lose by such a close margin," Wygmans said in an interview with The Campus on Nov. 6, Election Night.

On Monday morning, a team of volunteers started the process of recounting ballots in Court Room 2 of the Addison County District Court House, only a few doors down from the very office the candidates were vying to occupy.

Continued on Page 3

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Volunteers recounting ballots for the state's attorney race

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

The temporary computer science building, under construction behind Wright Memorial Theater.

160 Strong: The Story of Computer Science at Midd

By APRIL QIAN
Arts and Academics Editor

As Computer Science Professor Daniel Scharstein sees it, writing a computer program requires just as much intellectual creativity as writing an English essay or proving a mathematical theorem.

When Scharstein first encountered the discipline as a teenager, "that was the thing that blew me away," he said. "You have this power — you have this computer that does your bidding."

"You can concoct whatever you want," he said.

With boundary-pushing innovations in computer science filling headlines every day, the role of computer science (CS) as a means of bringing about change seems both exciting and endless. And at Middlebury, surging interest in the discipline has caused the department to grow rapidly, and prompted the institution to begin remaking the campus to accommodate it.

On Middlebury's campus, there are around 160 declared CS majors. This statistic is even more impressive when compared to the previous decade, when there was an average of seven graduating CS majors per year. This ranks CS as the second-largest major on campus, after Economics.

Continued on Page 9

Five Debaters Headed to World's Largest Tourney

By RILEY BOARD
Contributing Writer

Five students from the college will compete at the World Universities Debating Championship (WUDC) from Dec. 27 to Jan. 4 at the University of Cape Town in South Africa. The college's debaters will be attending the largest college debate tournament in the world after many months of successes at debate tournaments around the globe.

The Middleury Debate Society is run by President Amanda Werner '21, Vice President Hadjara Gado '21 and Captain Charlotte Massey '19.

The team will send two teams and a judge to South Africa this winter for WUDC: Massey, Werner, Nathan Obbard '21 and Quinn Boyle '21 as debaters and Van Barth '21 as a judge.

"I am incredibly honored and grateful for the opportunity to represent Middlebury at Worlds this year, and I am excited to meet debaters from around the world who will challenge and broaden my current perspectives about different topics," Werner said.

The organization has had many successes since last spring, when Warner and Gado won the novice championships for the North American Women's Championships and Massey made the Grand Finals, becoming eighth speaker overall. Massey and Ceryn Schoel '19.5 made semifinals at Ameri-

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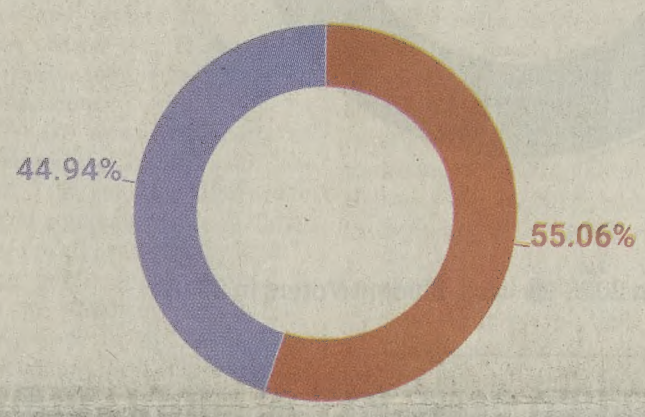

With Easy Voter Access, Students Opted to Vote Local

By SARAH ASCH
Editor at Large

Midterm elections historically see far lower turnout than presidential elections, especially among college students. But this year's midterms, at least in Middlebury, represented a deviation from that trend: 67 more students cast their votes in the town of Middlebury this midterm election than during the 2016 presidential election, a 30 percent increase.

Students gave many reasons for deciding to vote in Vermont instead of sending an absentee ballot back home. Some students, such as Paul Flores Clavel '22, cited their involvement in local politics as the reason they decided to cast their vote in Addison County.

"I've been getting to know more about Vermont politics and in general I just feel like I'd vote here where I'll be living for the next few years," said Clavel, who is from New York City. "New York will definitely vote the way it has in the past but Vermont seems to be really crucial right now so I decided to express my voting power here."

Some international students with U.S. citizenship also voted in Vermont because they do not have another domestic address where they can register.

Others voted after attempting to vote back home and experiencing problems with the absentee ballot system. Many never received their absentee ballots in the

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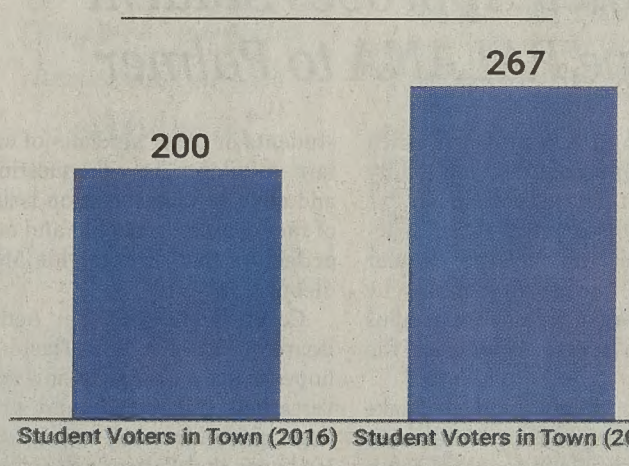


30 percent more students voted in Middlebury in 2018 than in 2016.

PALANA House Headed to Palmer in 2019

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

PALANA's soon-to-be former location at 97 Adirondack View.

By EMMA THOMPSON
Staff Writer

Palmer House will become the new location of PALANA, the Pan-African, Latinx, Asian and Native American intercultural academic interest house. After gaining approval from the Community Council, the redesignation will happen in time for the 2019-20 school year.

Students involved hope that this transition will bring added support to students of color while simultaneously engaging the rest of the campus and providing a platform for dialogue.

"PALANA is about fostering diversity in all of its different forms," said Lynn Travnikova '20, Community Council's student co-chair. By prioritizing a space for diversity and inclusion, PALANA hopes to do just that.

Part of the motivation for this change is that PALANA's current home, located at 97 Adirondack View, has room for fewer than 10 people. This space can at times come across as inaccessible to the larger and whiter Middlebury community, according to Karla Nunez '19, who first thought of relocating PALANA to Palmer.

"Previous ideas of PALANA were very much like 'you're the other part of the world, the other, non-white part of the world. It

Continued on Page 2

Panel Explores Injustice of U.S. Immigration

By BEN DOHAN
Staff Writer

Speakers discussed the painful and sometimes tragic experiences of immigrants seeking new lives in the United States during a Nov. 15 panel in Dana Auditorium, titled "Trauma and the U.S. Immigration System."

The panel featured University of Vermont College of Medicine Professor Dr. Andrea Green, Albany Law School Professor Sarah Rogerson, Migrant Justice activist Marita Caneda and Hannah Krutiansky '19, who worked as a summer intern with the Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services (RAICES).

Meron Benti '19, who was born in Ethiopia and moved to Italy before making her way to the United States, served as the moderator. She opened by talking about her own experience as an immigrant and her 18 month wait for asylum.

Krutiansky shared her experiences working with RAICES, a non-profit based in San Antonio, Texas, where she spent time in detention facilities and worked directly with detainees to provide legal support. She focused on injustice faced by indigenous migrants that she observed during the job.

"I was in a courtroom where the mother and the interpreter clearly were not understanding each other and the judge just said, 'Please give your best interpretation,'" she said.

Krutiansky's work with RAICES gave her a first hand perspective of the trauma that immigrants endure.

"They'll be told that they need to sign a paper that might be in English and if they ask what they're signing a very typical response could be, 'Do you think I have time to explain this to you?'" she said. "What they really need is counseling, but what they're going to get is interrogation about the most intimate, traumatic, events of their life."

In one incident, she and other RAICES staff were forced to leave

Continued on Page 2

LOCAL

Designs proposed to transform town green space
Page 3

Activists "Sleep-Out" to end homelessness
Page 4

ARTS

'Shoplifters' explores family ties
Page 8

SPORTS

Field hockey claims national championship
Page 12

Women's soccer on way to Final Four
Page 12

After Absentee Ballot Failures, Students Opted to Vote in Addison County

Continued from Page 1

mail, like Maddie Ledet '22.

"I actually wanted to vote in Georgia where I'm from, since we had a pretty historic election going on for governor, but unfortunately my absentee ballot did not come in so I did same-day registration for the election in Vermont," she said.

Other students did receive their ballots but were not able to return them in time. Langley Dunn '19 discovered that her Oklahoma ballot needed to be notarized and received back home by election day at 7 p.m. in order to count. Knowing she would not be able to send it back in time, she decided to register to vote same-day in Vermont.

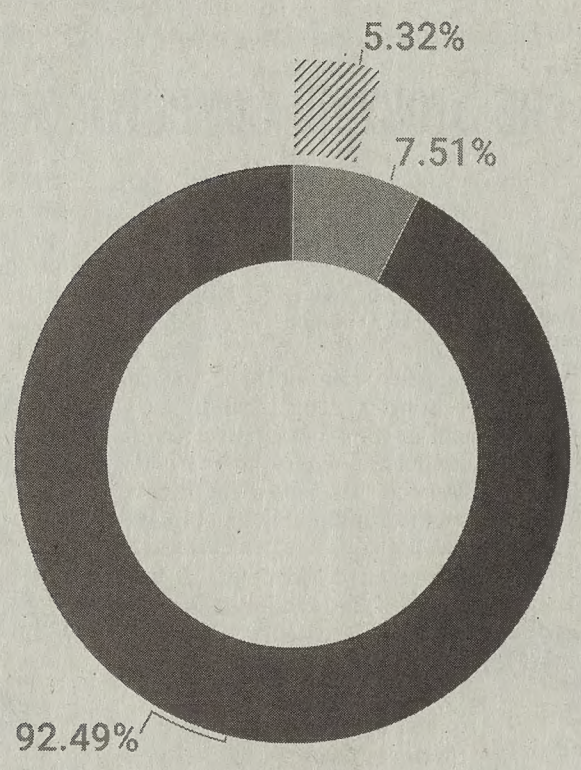
Dunn and Ledet were among many other students who took advantage of the same-day registration option. This is the first year that Vermont has offered same-day voter registration, and over half of the students who voted in town registered on Election Day. Students comprised almost 70 percent of all same-day registrants in Middlebury.

Ashley Laux, program director at the college's Center for Community Engagement, said this may be in part because MiddVote, a nonpartisan student organization dedicated to encouraging students to vote, emphasized the same-day voting option on campus.

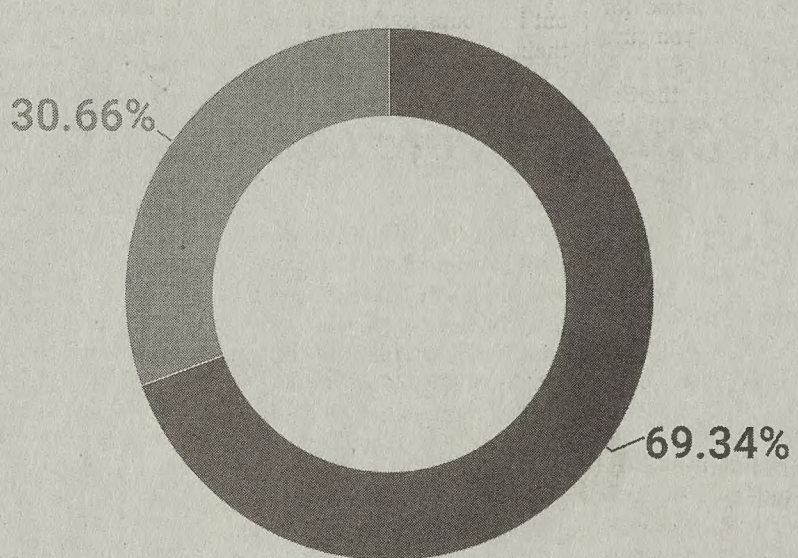
"Since many states have earlier voter registration deadlines, if a student who is an eligible voter was unable to register to vote in their home state and missed that registration deadline, MiddVote volunteers informed them that they could still register to vote in Vermont and vote here in Middlebury," she said.

The Town Clerk's office released an election participation report on Nov. 15. The Campus analyzed voting records for the town of Middlebury in 2018, and compared them to records from 2016. The Campus counted all voters who listed "Middlebury College or "14 Old Chapel Road" as either their legal or mailing address as "students" for this analysis. This method does not account for students who live off campus and may have used another address.

STUDENT AND NON-STUDENT VOTERS IN MIDDLEBURY, 2016 and 2018



VOTERS THAT REGISTERED SAME-DAY IN MIDDLEBURY, 2018



Community Council Approves Student Proposal to Move PALANA to Palmer

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seemed a little unclear as to who the house served.'" Nunez said.

She feels that this confusion has limited PALANA's membership, and hopes that the transition to Palmer's larger space will foster involvement from a larger, more diverse community. Palmer House was previously a Super-Block, a one-year opportunity for a group of students to apply to live together under a common interest.

Last year, former Associate Dean of Students Doug Adams prompted students to create an idea for a new social house, and Nunez knew that she wanted to create a larger, more inclusive space for cultural organizations, minorities and conversations about privileges and experiences on campus. In the spring of 2018, Nunez, now Senior Associate Dean of Students Derek Doucet and staff at the Anderson Freeman Resource Center (AFC) started to draft a proposal which was first presented to Community Council at the end of October.

With three large study spaces, Palmer can facilitate regular meetings and events hosted by cultural organizations on campus that often have to vie for use of the AFC.

Nunez also wanted to make social experiences at Middlebury more accessible to people of color, and hopes that the reformed vision of PALANA will do this.

"People of color can have more of a say in the social scene on campus," she said. "The social scene on campus is very much white-dominated, and it feels somewhat exclusive. The only time I ever feel comfortable going to a party at Midd are ones that I throw, ones that my friends throw or Café Con Leche."

Nunez also emphasized the importance of creating spaces for uncomfortable conversations on campus. She encouraged white students or other students of certain privileges to ask questions and educate themselves on issues of race, gender, sexuality and other factors that often divide Middlebury students.

Co-President of the Acting Board of PALANA Julio Tlachi '21 hopes to see a change in how conversations about race and privilege are addressed on campus. He hopes that Palmer will act as a space where students can discuss race in a social setting, rather than in an educational context. Additionally, he hopes this will shift the dynamics so that students no longer have to act as representatives or teachers of their race, but rather can have open and honest conversations.

Tlachi's ideal social interaction between students of different backgrounds? A relaxed movie night at PALANA with enough ramen to go around.

"Let's just sit down, have a conversation," he said.

COURTESY PHOTOS

From left to right (above): Van Barth, Quinn Boyle, Nathan Obbard and Charlotte Massey. Students attending a debate tournament at Oxford. From left to right: Alexandra Sundarsingh (from the University of Toronto,) Charlotte Massey, Hadjara Gado and Amanda Werner at the North American Women's Championships.

Debate Headed Overseas for Second Time in Successful Season

Continued from Page 1

ca's Cup, while Nathan Obbard '21 and Van Barth '21 made novice finals at the George Washington University Championships.

This fall, the Debate Society sent first years to compete at the McGill Central Novice Championships in Montreal, where they performed well overall and Massey was selected to judge.

"I'm proud of the new debaters who performed well at the McGill tournament in Montreal back in September," Barth said. "They really took a leap of faith and competed at a tournament only three weeks after arriving on campus."

Two Middlebury teams came close to the quarterfinal rounds at the Hart House Inter-Varsity at the University of Toronto. And on Nov. 8 and 9, two teams competed at the Oxford IV, one of the most competitive and prestigious debate tournaments in the world, with both teams nearly making quarterfinals. Massey entered the Grand Finals at Oxford Women's Championship, another challenging and prestigious tournament.

PANELISTS SHARE PERSONAL EXPERIENCES OF WORK SUPPORTING IMMIGRANTS

Continued from Page 1

the holding facility without explanation.

"We exited visitation and we were met by a literal army of ICE officers, it was probably anywhere from 30 to 50 officers in bullet-proof vests, guns, shields, handcuffs," Krutiansky said. "This was just to terrorize this population."

After this incident, 16 fathers were randomly selected and put in solitary confinement for a day with no explanation. One of the fathers tried to commit suicide.

Krutiansky witnessed the effect that this attack had on the children whose fathers were taken away with no explanation.

"One seven-year-old boy whose eyes were completely glazed over after the incident, bloodshot, you could have put your hand in front of him and he wouldn't have flinched," Krutiansky said.

Rogerson elaborated on immigration from a legal perspective and described a variety of legal terms. She also described traumatic experiences helping 300 refugees who had been flown to a county jail in Albany to be detained.

"No one ever told them where they were, so the first thing that the lawyers did when they went in was draw a map of the United States and show them where they were, and where their family members were in some cases," she said, describing many of the refugees as "incredibly disoriented."

Rogerson criticized many recent changes to immigration policy.

"The Trump administration made the decision to limit asylum claims for people who were fleeing gang violence and people fleeing domestic violence," she said.

She also emphasized collaboration with law enforcement.

"We're creating our own system of humane immigration system enforcement and we're using law enforcement allies to do it," Rogerson said.

Dr. Green, a pediatrician with experience serving refugees, focused on the physical effects of trauma and immigration, especially on children.

"Young people, they will trade sex for their basic needs," she said, calling it "survival sex" which leads to sexually transmitted infections, in addition to other diseases and injuries acquired through the arduous process of coming to the United States as an asylee or refugee.

"The bigger issue, in addition to all those health issues, is the effects of trauma," she said. "Stress, trauma causes inflammation in the body, and that inflammation in the body affects health in the long term, and actually changes your genetic makeup."

The effect at a broader level is a higher suicide rate among immigrants. Green spoke about her own experience serving Bhutanese refugees in Vermont, which has twice the suicide risk of the general population.

"That trauma affects that parents ability to parent that child," she said during discussion of parents coming to the U.S. to get a better life for their children. "That trauma is now a multi-generational trauma."

Caneda, a Migrant Justice activist, gave a brief overview of the organization's current work. She spoke about its mission to protect Vermont dairy workers with the goal of improving lives of migrants and advancing human rights, and highlighted that immigrants do not have the same human rights as others.

"Since 2014, a lot of members of migrant justice have been arrested" she said. "Nine of those detentions have clear evidence of retaliation for coming in and speaking out about human rights." Caneda added that many detentions and arrests by ICE also involved illegal cooperation with the DMV.

Caneda emphasized that not all immigrants are necessarily fleeing violence, but also lack of opportunity and unsafe working conditions.

"When the only options to work are for a fracking company or for an oil company or joining the army, a lot of people don't have those values and they come and migrate here and end up working on the dairy farms" she said.

"When you work at a dairy farm you live on the farm, you become a 24/7 worker" Caneda said, pointing out food safety concerns. "When you live on a farm, especially up north, you depend on others to bring you food, sometimes it's every 15 days, so if day 13 you run out of food, you don't have an option and you spend two days without."

In a positive moment, Caneda explained that this condition has improved.

"Right now in Vermont anyone can get a driver's license regardless of your immigration status, which was a big change because now people could start driving cars, going to stores, not depending on others for food," she said.

This panel fit within a larger national conversation around immigration. The narratives of the speakers stood in striking contrast with the president's recent military response to the alleged "migrant caravan" of immigrants approaching the border from Central America.

Town Seeks Public Input on Green Spaces Ahead of Overhauls

By SADIE HOUSBERG
Senior Local Editor

MIDDLEBURY — Residents of Middlebury and the area will have a final chance to voice their opinions on the proposed overhauls of the Triangle Park section of the Village Green and Printer's Alley Park. On Wednesday, Dec. 5 at 7 p.m. the Town of Middlebury and the Vermont Agency of Transportation will hold a public input meeting to review the conceptual landscape designs. The meeting will take place at the Town Offices at 77 Main St.

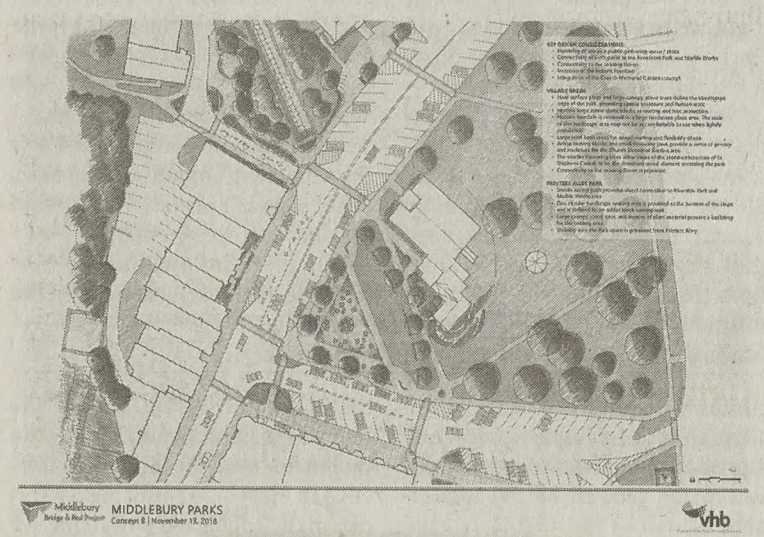
The transformation of the town's green spaces is part of the larger effort to revamp the downtown area with the Middlebury Rail & Bridge project. The Planning Committee (PC) and the Design Advisory Council (DAC) will meet with Landscape Architect Mark Hamelin of VHB/Vanasse Hangen Brustlin Inc., which offers integrated services in sustainable design, energy and site engineering, at noon today — Thursday, Nov. 29 — to discuss the two proposed concepts.

The two concepts, mapped out by Hamelin, offer varying amounts of paved and green space and attempt to reflect community feedback from previous meetings. Such feedback, according to Jim Gish, Middlebury's community liaison for the downtown Rail & Bridge Project, demonstrated a desire to incorporate changes to Triangle Park into a push for increased economic development.

"Two or three themes have emerged," Gish said, regarding the community input. "I think the most interesting one is that there's been a lot of focus on rather than restoring Triangle Park to more of a traditional New England town green, thinking of how it might drive economic development by becoming more of a plaza where public events could be held."

Discussions of changes to the green started three years ago, according to Brian Carpenter, Chair of the Middlebury Selectboard. A public hearing held last June kicked the project into gear with some initial designs by a local landscape architect. Since then, the project has been through multiple iterations and changes, finding its way to Hamelin who, according to Gish, has previously designed sites such as the Burlington Waterfront and the Waterbury State Office Complex.

Concept A, one proposal for the Triangle Park overhaul.



TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY

Concept B, an alternative design for the town green space.

"What's interesting is that that has changed a lot in those three years as people think more about it," said Carpenter. "Now that we've decided we're going to have Merchant's Row be one-way, that changes the way people feel about Triangle Park and what it could potentially bring to the downtown."

Many Middlebury-area residents have expressed interest in seeing a space where people can congregate that can be used for events such as the Farmer's Market and even protests, explained Carpenter. Ultimately, he said, people are thinking about a central space that will attract people into the downtown.

"I think the general feedback that I have received as Selectboard chair," said Carpenter, "is that we're generally heading in the right direction but still wanting some additional change."

"I'm confident that we're going to come up with something that we're all pretty happy with."

The discussions of the proposed designs have taken on new meaning in light of a changing and modernizing consumer market. The Selectboard, Carpenter added, is looking to "townships that are more progressive" for inspiration on keeping downtown areas "vibrant and full of life."

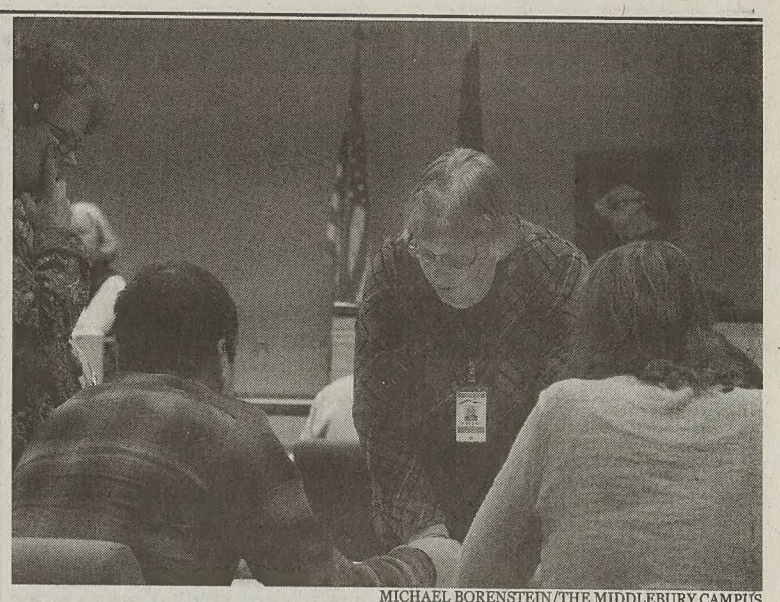
Following the public input meeting on Dec. 5, the VHB will review and update the designs further based on feedback in preparation for the Selectboard's final decision.

"We are providing plenty of opportunity for input," said Carpenter. "I'm confident that we're going to come up with something that we're all pretty happy with."

The public input meeting is open to Middlebury-area residents as well as Middlebury College students, Gish emphasized.

"I think it would be fabulous if Middlebury College students came down, even if it's just to listen to how these processes work," he said, adding that students could bring a new and different perspective. "It's your home for four years too. And plus, you guys have good ideas."

If all goes as planned, the Selectboard hopes to wrap up the design process and make their final decision on Tuesday, Dec. 11.



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Wygmans Confirmed Winner in State's Attorney Recount

Continued from Page 1

The recount committee is composed of volunteers appointed by each of the candidates, some of whom are paid $30 a day while others are compensated by their employers.

The process goes town by town, moving through the 17,500 or so ballots that were cast in Addison County. Volunteers sit in pairs at tables of four. Each pair consists of one volunteer appointed by Wygmans and one appointed by Bevere. Ballots are sorted into piles of 50 and counted out by the pairs, who then review each ballot. Ballots in which the ovals are completely filled in are scanned through a tabulator to be counted.

Ballots in which the ovals are overfilled, underfilled or marked in other ways are set aside to be hand counted. Pairs are obligated to determine the intent of the voter and agree on which candidate they voted for. If the pair cannot agree, the ballot is deemed "questionable" and submitted to a judge who decides the voter's intent.

Will Senning, the director of elections in the office of Vermont's Secretary of State, was in the room to oversee the process. He supervises recounts across the state every election cycle.

"The statute is really specific in this instance," he told The Campus. This means that every recount runs in a similar manner, but, he added, "each one has its own character."

The Addison County recount felt like a community gathering. Committee members chatted with their neighbors, people caught up with friends and many headed out in groups to the Co-op during their lunch break.

Senning said that usually only a small handful of ballots are "questionable" and sent to a judge.

"If the margin coming out of here is less than the number of questionable ballots, the judge's decision will determine the actual outcome," Senning said.

During this recount, ten ballots were deemed questionable, and thus will not change the outcome of the race.

Addison County State Senator Christopher Bray served as a member of the recount committee. Bray won his own election this past midterm and volunteered to help with the recount process.

"I had the time, and I wanted to make the time, just to come in and ensure that people are entirely confident in the voting process in Vermont," Bray said. "I think we do a great job in Vermont."

Bray explained that the goal of the committee was to move as efficiently as possible — ballot counting, after all, is a labor- and time-intensive process. "The goal is not to have anyone sitting still," he said.

"I wanted to make the time, just to come in and ensure that people are entirely confident in the voting process in Vermont."

Election Day is all about politics, Bray explained, but the recount is not. "The politics end when the votes get count," he said.

Sheila Conroy, another member of the recount committee, has a lot of experience counting ballots. As a Justice of the Peace in Sailsbury, she counts votes every election night. Salisbury, like many of the smaller towns in Addison County, hand counts votes instead of using a tabulator.

Conry was appointed by Bevere. "I can see where mistakes could be made. Counting gets fatiguing after a while," Conroy said, remembering that they were up past one in the morning on election night. "People are weary at that hour."

Senning was pleased with the process of the recount. "It's nice to see how many people are actually willing to come out and help," he said.

With Giveaways and 'Midd Night Strolls,' Town Encorages Shoppers to Stay Local

By NORA PEACHIN
Staff Writer

MIDDLEBURY — While campus remained quiet with many students traveling over Thanksgiving break, downtown Middlebury welcomed the annually occurring Small Business Saturday. Local businesses greeted shoppers with hot cocoa, cider, and special deals on Saturday, Nov. 24, providing refuge from the unusually cold and snowy weather.

The event was launched by American Express in 2010, when, according to the company's website, "small businesses [were] hurting from an economy in recession." For the past eight years, communities across the country have continued the tradition, organizing efforts to "shop small" and support local businesses on the Saturday following Thanksgiving. In 2017, more than 7,200 neighborhoods across all 50 states participated.

According to the Addison County Economic Development Corporation, the idea behind the event is twofold. First, to encourage people to support their local economies and second, to build community, "because a visit to the family-owned shop or a stop at the neighborhood eatery not only supports local economies, but also promotes thriving communities," the website reads.

The Middlebury Selectboard released a statement proclaiming Nov. 24, 2018 as Small Business Saturday, urging the residents of Middlebury and communities across the country "to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year."

"Middlebury has been participating in Small Business Saturday for a number of years," said Karen Duguay of the Better Middlebury Partnership. "A few years ago, the former Main Street store, Clementine, was profiled nationally as part of the campaign," she recounted.

"These businesses. are owned by community members... They are truly the backbone of our community."

The feature on Emily Blistein, owner of Clementine, highlighted how Blistein engaged with customers through digital marketing. She used an email list and social media to keep them up to date on goings-on at the store. The video and article were published by Sterling Payment Technologies, a credit card processing company, in 2017.

This year, the Vermont Book Shop on Main Street hosted John Vincent, of A Revolutionary Press, who sold a selection of his prints and ran a tabletop printing press. The independent bookstore also distributed copies of a young adult novel to underserved children in the community.

IPJ Real Estate contributed to the day's festive atmosphere, offering free gift wrapping, cocoa, cider and doughnuts to anyone purchasing gifts locally. "For this year, IPJ took on the planning for wrapping gifts and hosting their Small Business Saturday event," said Duguay.

After describing the special events of this Saturday, Duguay discussed her organization's plans to continue their work of supporting small businesses. "The Better Middlebury Partnership is focused on extending the initiative of local shopping promotion beyond Saturday and throughout the entire shopping season, with Very Merry Middlebury events coming up, including two extended evening shopping events in the Downtown and Marble Works," Duguay said. "Those evenings will feature great deals, promotions, specials, free tastings and more."

The shopping evenings, or Midd Night Strolls, will be held on Dec. 6 and Dec. 13. Pop-ups, tastings, specials and giveaways are planned for both nights, according to the Experience Middlebury website.

"These businesses are owned by community members who are contributing to our local economy, they are sponsoring events, donating to little league teams and non-profit auctions," Duguay said, speaking to the importance of supporting locally-owned small businesses. "They truly are the backbone of our community."

She encouraged customers to shop at these businesses not only on special days like this past Saturday, but all year-round. Shopping local, she said, is a great way to "explore what's here and connect to something real."

COURTESY PHOTO

IPJ Real Estate offered gift wrapping for local patrons.

ADDISON COUNTY EDC

The Shop Small logo, part of the town's promotional efforts for Small Business Saturday.

Former Students Accuse Dartmouth of Failing to Protect Them from Sexual Assault

By LUCY TOWNEND
Contributing Writer

Seven women have filed a class action lawsuit alleging that Dartmouth College allowed sexual misconduct by three former professors to continue for over a decade. The $70 million lawsuit, filed in the state on New Hampshire on Nov. 15, involved actions by professors Todd Heatherton, William Kelley and Paul Whalen in Dartmouth's Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences. The plaintiffs argue that professors perpetrated a culture that resembled a "21st Century Animal House."

Professors are accused of inviting students to late-night hot tub parties at private residences, holding lab meetings at bars and encouraging an atmosphere of heavy drinking. These actions were accompanied by numerous allegations of sexual advances by the three professors towards graduate students who depended upon the professors' academic support.

According to The Washington Post, Kristina Rapuano, one of the plaintiffs, claims that Whalen sent her a text message one night telling her to come back to his office. Once she arrived, he allegedly turned off the lights and began touching her.

Plaintiffs argue that this was an open secret in the college, in the town of Hanover, and at conferences, and that these three professors had an established reputation as predators. Dartmouth officials released a statement saying they "applaud the courage" displayed by the women who came forward, but asserting that the college disagrees "with the characterizations of Dartmouth's actions in the complaint"

Middlebury's current sexual assault policy claims that the college "will take reasonable, prompt and appropriate action" in the event of sexual misconduct. This sexual misconduct is defined as "sexual assault, domestic and dating violence and misconduct, stalking and related retaliation." Discipline for employees, based on the severity of the actions, includes "discipline for employees such as written reprimands, salary freezes (faculty) or termination of employment." A criminal investigation may be opened at the complainant's discretion.

Dartmouth claims adherence to a similar policy, and writes that they are "committed to the safety and wellbeing of every member of our community." However, the alleged disregard of sexual assault claims on Dartmouth's campus would speak otherwise.

"I don't know if the administration buried the accusations, but I wouldn't be surprised if they did. And that's deeply troubling," said Roger Dai '20, a Middlebury student currently spending a year at Dartmouth.

At the annual Cognitive Neuroscience Society conference in March 2015, Rapuano claims that Kelley raped her after a night of drinking, the New York Times reported. The morning after, Kelley told Rapuano that they had had sex two times, after which Rapuano began panicking. Rapuano has no recollection of leaving the bar.

Rapuano, among others, attempted to gain distance from Kelley by engaging in a fellowship overseas. She says that Kelley started punishing her academically for refusing his advances. Annemarie Brown also claims that Kelley reacted in the same way regarding her advising. Andrea Courtney similarly recounts that Whalen abandoned advising her after she tried to distance herself from him.

> ***"I don't know if the administration buried the accusations, but I wouldn't be surprised if they did. And that's deeply troubling."***

The first complaint against one of the three professors, Heatherton, was filed in 2002. The lawsuit alleges that the college has continued to ignore complaints for almost sixteen years.

A months-long Title IX investigation began in 2017 after several complaints were lodged against the professors. Dartmouth allegedly told women who launched complaints to continue to work for the professors for the next four months, warning the women that academic retaliation may result from refusing the professors. In that time, graduate student Vassiki Chaahan, a plaintiff, was sexually assaulted.

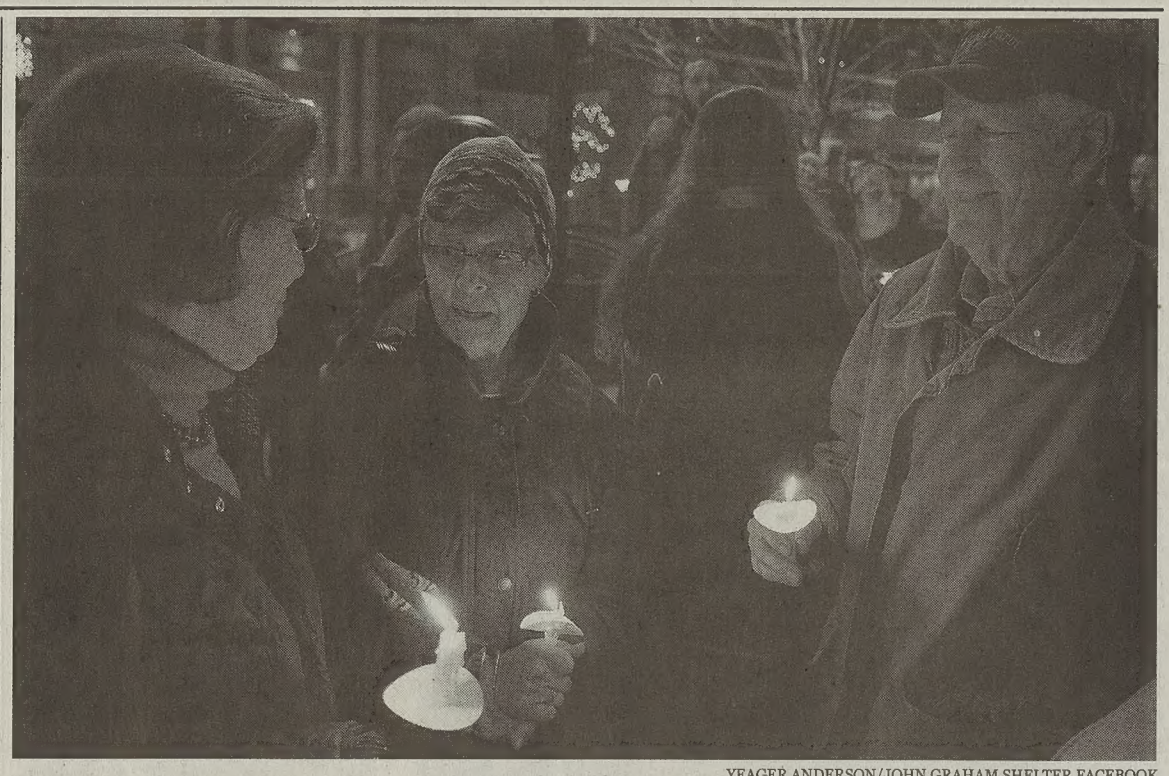
In October 2018, a criminal investigation was opened by the New Hampshire Attorney General and is still ongoing.

As the Title IX investigation progressed, Dartmouth instigated the rarely-used process required to fire tenured professors. Before this was put into effect, however, Whalen and Kelley resigned, and Heatherton retired. The three professors are now banned from Dartmouth's campus and any Dartmouth-sponsored events, and cannot be rehired by the university.

Heatherton's attorney has denied involvement in the scandal, claiming that the plaintiffs were not his students and were only involved with the other two professors. Heatherton did not participate in any of the parties and did not drink with underage students, he claims, and Heatherton's lab meetings did not involve alcohol.

The New York Times reported that Sasha Brietzke, one of the plaintiffs, claims that Heatherton pulled her onto his lap at a conference in March 2017 during a karaoke night and asked her about her plans for the night. Brietzke immediately left the establishment in shock.

Heatherton publicly apologized for touching a graduate student while intoxicated in 2017, claiming that the act was not sexual. He also maintains that any hiring for labs was done by a female assistant, focusing on skills and experience instead of appearance.



YEAGER ANDERSON/JOHN GRAHAM SHELTER FACEBOOK

Residents stand in solidarity with those experiencing homelessness at the candlelight vigil in 2015.

In Annual 'Sleep-Out,' Locals Experience Frigid Reality of Homelessness

By BENJAMIN GLASS
Contributing Writer

Winter is here. If anyone needs proof, at four in the morning last Thursday, it was three degrees Fahrenheit in Middlebury, which is now the town's coldest recorded temperature for a Thanksgiving Day. For the hundreds of Addison County residents who make up the county's homeless population, enduring these mornings and nights must be done without permanent housing. And with the deep dive into winter, conditions can become life-threatening. Last January, former Middlebury employee Suad Teocanin froze to death mere steps away from the shelter of the Charter House in town, where he had been living.

To raise awareness of the dangers of winter homelessness, The John Graham Shelter, based in Vergennes, will host their 5th annual "Vigil and Sleep-Out" this Saturday, Dec 1.

The idea is simple: pitch tents on the Marble Works Green, and for one night, anyone who wishes can sleep outside in bitter conditions to show solidarity for and support people experiencing homelessness.

"The best way I can describe the Sleep-Out is it's like Relay for Life, but instead of walking at night we're sleeping outside," said Chris Schembry, service coordinator at the John Graham Shelter.

Schembry emphasized that the night-long event coincides with heavy fundraising efforts by the Shelter, which will all directly benefit the homeless they support throughout the year. Donations from individuals and organizations now total over $43,000, leading into this weekend. The current fundraising goal is set at $45,000 and the Shelter is hoping to reach that number by Saturday.

"This is the third year I am working with the shelter for the sleep out, and we typically raise somewhere between $40,000 and $45,000," said Schembry.

The event itself begins at 4 p.m., with a Candlelight Vigil on the Middlebury Town Green. The Sleep-Out begins later that evening. As an employee of the shelter, Schembry commented on the overnight from personal experience. "I didn't sleep much," said Schembry. "It really just put a lot of things in perspective." For the homeless population, he said, "That's their normal. That's what they have to do every day. "

For more information on how to fundraise and participate in the "Sleep-Out", visit www.johngrahamshelter.org.

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A Call for Supporting Local Businesses

By THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Within the past year, several Middlebury businesses have shut down, leaving "For Sale" and "For Lease" signs in once-crowded window displays. The facades of the empty buildings have cast a somber shadow over the town, and many are wondering what the lasting implications of the closures will be.

A vibrant town is just as important to the Middlebury community as a vibrant college. With these losses, we have also lost unique opportunities to engage with the people of Middlebury by supporting businesses that are important to the larger Middlebury community. The relationship between the student community and the town community has often been fraught with tension, perhaps rightfully so, as the student body often does very little to engage with the surrounding town. One sad example was the cancellation of the Vermont Chili Festival; students loved the event, but hardly ever did more to make it happen than drunkenly consume chili. It should be the student body's long-term goal to improve the existing relationship between students and the town's long-term residents. This will take time, and perhaps a few generations of students, but we believe every student has the opportunity and the obligation to contribute to a thriving greater Middlebury community.

Carol's Hungry Mind Café, The Lobby, Ben Franklin, Clay's Clothing, Rough Cut and Storm Café, each on or near Main St., have all closed just in the last few months. Store owners say high rent prices, the joint railroad and bridge construction and increased competition from online retailers have all contributed to the closings.

We know the college has worked in the past to help small business owners in the town. (A sizeable fraction of the town's annual budget is made up of college funding.) We also recognize that some Middlebury students, or students participating in Middlebury programs, attend the college year-round and contribute to the local economy year-round.

In September, several members of our staff had a conversation with Angelo Lynn, the editor and publisher of the Addison Independent. He asked us to think about the types of businesses that would bring Middlebury students into town more often and get them invested in the community. In light of his question, we have been thinking about what could fill the town's unfortunate new vacancies.

Taste of India and Sabai Sabai, restaurants that serve international cuisines that can be hard to find in rural Vermont, are enduringly popular with students, who often come from urban areas with a wide variety of foods. We think it would be great to fill in gaps left by closed restaurants with more types of cuisine. The Lobby has been replaced by the newly-opened Italian restaurant The Arcadian, but we hope that this will be only the beginning.

Other ideas include more social spaces, where students can spend more than an hour in town. On a campus that sometimes feels overcrowded, spaces for group hangouts are more needed than ever. A bowling alley or arcade could also bring in revenue. Some of the successful businesses in town, like the Tinker and Smithy Game Store, offer social experiences in addition to merchandise or food.

However, this conversation cannot occur in a vacuum. While these options seem appealing to us as students, we must consider the town's need to fill the vacant storefronts with businesses that will benefit the entire community. This past summer, the Town of Middlebury email list (you can sign up to be on the list and receive town updates at go/middmailinglist) asked residents what alternatives they would like to see replace Clay's and Ben Franklin. Of the 230 respondents, over 80 stated that they would want a clothing store of some kind. Over 60 said they would prefer a small-format Target.

Some argue that the responsibility to revamp local infrastructure should be placed on the town. The Editorial Board believes that the onus should be equally placed on students. We think the success of a college depends on the success of the town surrounding it. Therefore, supporting the local economy is essential to ensuring the longevity of the college. The Black Student Union (BSU), for example, rents out the Middlebury Marquis to screen films for their members. BSU has actively engaged with the town community, making that space part of college activity and helping to bridge the gap between Middlebury students and town residents.

Our ways of participating do not have to be solely economic, however. The Middlebury Campus has a longstanding relationship with the Addison Independent; Campus editors often intern with the newspaper over the summer.

Recently, The Campus covered the local midterm elections in Addison County. After our election issue came out, our staff compiled a live report on Election Day of the results of local and state elections. The issue and live report received positive feedback from students, faculty and most importantly, town residents. Other organizations have taken similar steps to integrate the college with the larger community through their work.

This Saturday, the Better Middlebury Partnership will host Very Merry Middlebury, a public celebration to kick off the holiday season, with events in town from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There will be horse-drawn wagon rides, hot chocolate, gingerbread house-making and a gingerbread house exhibit, caroling and free gift-wrapping for all presents bought in town, not to mention that Santa Claus is expected to make an appearance. It should be a perfect opportunity for students to have fun engaging with the community and support local businesses.

It is also the responsibility of the SGA External Affairs Committee to serve as a liaison between Middlebury, Addison County, the state of Vermont and other governmental and non-governmental bodies external to the college. Many students, particularly first-years, simply don't know what the town of Middlebury has to offer. The SGA should but together a list or map of local business, interesting local places to visit, and ways to get involved with the community. The External Affairs Committee could host an event similar to Chili Fest — something that encourages collaboration between students and locals. But the change doesn't have to come from our institution; it can start with interactions between us students and the members of our community who make Middlebury, Vermont feel like another home.

Graphic by Millie von Platen.

Counting the Costs of Applying ED in the NESCAC

By CHRISTINE McDOW

For students for whom strolling across grassy beaches sipping hot apple cider in the crisp autumn breeze is their ideal college experience, attending a NESCAC school might fulfill their fantasy. Thus, the carrot of the admissions advantage offered by early-decision admissions programs may be too tantalizing to resist. Yet, it is well documented that only select groups of students, athletes and legacies with mediocre academic records, truly stand to benefit from Early Decision (ED) programs. ED programs were really designed for the convenience of institutions, rather than students.

Historically, ED programs were designed by small liberal arts colleges in the 1950s to trap the best students in a binding agreement before those students could apply to Ivy League schools. Considering that the projected Regular Decision (RD) admissions yield is about 25% at most NESCAC schools, in the absence of ED admissions, NESCAC schools would likely need to double and in some cases quadruple their acceptance rates in order to successfully fill their incoming classes. Thus, ED admissions artificially deflate the acceptance rates at NESCAC schools, boosting their selectivity index and positions in the journalistic rankings of American colleges.

Considering this history, it is not surprising that as of April 2018, the ED programs at Amherst, Bates, Colby, Hamilton, Middlebury, Wesleyan, Williams and Tufts are all under Department of Justice investigation. Whether ED programs are an entirely ethical practice in United States higher education is debatable. ED programs are remarkably absent from admissions programs outside North America. With the deadline for ED II admissions as well as RD admissions at NESCAC schools fast approaching, here are a few points of consideration to muse over while deciding whether to apply to NESCAC colleges ED or RD, if at all.

Before applying ED in the NESCAC, students should consider these and other social, emotional and financial costs. Although most colleges profess a commitment to student mental health, many colleges will only counsel students with short-term needs that can be resolved in a brief time frame, with some schools limiting students to as little as three free counseling sessions. All colleges are required to withdraw Title IV federal funds from students not meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements, but some NESCAC schools discretionarily withdraw institutional aid from students with low GPAs.

All colleges are required to comply with and accommodate students under the Americans with Disabilities Act, yet students needing to take a semester off or a ninth semester for reasons related to mental or physical health may face challenges both bureaucratic and financial. Although written policies on taking a semester off vary, a residential life director or commons dean may hold the power to deny a student's request to leave mid-semester or take a semester off. In addition, taking a semester off or ninth semester may prove especially challenging for students with financial need since NESCAC schools overwhelmingly restrict financial aid to eight semesters, only providing ninth semesters of aid under extenuating circumstances.

All NESCAC schools except Connecticut College, Trinity, Tufts and Wesleyan are need-blind. Regardless, there is no common definition of what need-blind means in practice. Even need-blind schools can use unorthodox means, such as considering parent occupation and high school prestige, to become unofficially aware of a student's financial means. So, at the very least it may behoove students from middle- and low-income families to leave the box on the Common App indicating an intention to apply for financial aid unchecked.

Most NESCAC schools claim to meet a student's full financial need, yet individual colleges determine whether students can use outside scholarship to cover additional costs such as annual health insurance or the one-time purchase of a personal computer. In special cases, individual colleges may even match outside scholarship earned through service in AmeriCorps dollar-per-dollar.

Any student awarded work-study based on their FAFSA would be able to apply for on-campus jobs early at most colleges. Yet, the amount of hours a student might need to work in a given week may vary drastically depending on a specific college's student pay rate ranging from $10 to $15 per hour. Notably, although compensation for resident assistant positions ranges from $2500 to $6500 per academic year, not all NESCAC schools provide RAs with free housing. For low-resource students, the presence and accessibility of textbook libraries, winter coat closets and medical emergency funds may significantly decrease financial stress.

The answers to questions about these hidden costs of college are not readily available through journalistic rankings, institutional promotional literature or campus tours. To get the answer to these questions, you may have to pick up the phone or even sit down face-to-face with staff and students outside the admissions office. Although these costs may be trivial to students from families in the top one percent (as much as a fifth of NESCAC students), to students from families in the bottom 60 percent (as little as a 10th of NESCAC students) these unanticipated costs may prove to be taxing on their overall college experience. Transferring in the sophomore fall is an option for ED students who find their school is a poor fit, but poor mental health and financial difficulty may make reapplying to college difficult. Thus, before applying ED to a NESCAC school, carefully count the costs.

Christine McDow is a member of the Middlebury College Class of 2021.

Dear My People: Black People Are Not Here For Our Entertainment

By ALEXIS LEVATO

Editor's Note: This is an installment of a series in which the writer will reflect on themes in the show "Dear White People," which she is analyzing in an independent study course.

In Volume II, Chapter X of "Dear White People," Rikki Carters asks the question, "Do you know what's historically been America's most popular form of entertainment besides porn?"

Do you?

Sam, of course, answers right away: it's minstrelsy.

Rikki quickly follows up and says that this form of entertainment continues today.

Minstrelsy has evolved over time but was originally a practice where white people would don themselves with blackface to mock slaves. It soon began to include black people themselves, forced to perform caricatured, distorted and egregious white interpretations of blackness.

Minstrelsy still exists in many art forms and literature because white people have predominantly dictated what black people must do in order to become famous, or how they should shape themselves to fit our mold. This is an abuse of power in a racist system, which is used to reinforce stereotypes—stereotypes that continue to benefit the people in power.

The problem with our thinking is this: if a black character on a TV show or movie is "too black" or doesn't fit what we deem is "appropriate" for them, they are heavily criticized not for their ability, but because they are acting in ways that we don't like. We are quick to shake our heads in disgust at a character that we deem "reverse-racist" or "ghetto." Instead, we choose to only support "good" black people who conform to our belief systems.

Colin Kaepernick was widely accepted and celebrated until he kneeled during the national anthem in support of Black Lives Matter, thereby protesting against police brutality. Beyoncé was the "perfect" black artist until she replicated the outfits of the Black Panther Party (this was unacceptable to white audiences because it reminded us that black people are powerful).

Minstrelsy is something that white people still do today. It is the presentation of distorted blackness, consumed simply for white pleasure, which simultaneously reinforces problematic prejudice against black people. It's Uncle Tom's Cabin, Jim Crow and Tyler Perry movies.

Minstrelsy in the past was a much more clearly distinguished art form because it was specifically named as such. Today, however, it is a little more complicated. Some might argue that certain representations of black experiences in this country are minstrelsy because of the way they reinforce negative stereotypes.

However, I think it is predominantly white consumption of such that makes it minstrelsy. It is when the white audience listens to songs about drug use, for example, written, produced and performed by a black artist as a source of entertainment that reinforces their racial prejudice and systems of power. It is our blind consumption of these performances, like sports, which reinforce a racist system of entertainment, that we need to take a closer look at.

There is an Atlantic article, titled "If Miley Cyrus's Twerking is Racist, Isn't Janis Joplin's Singing Also Racist?," that clearly demonstrates what modern minstrelsy looks like. It can be white women using black women for attention and cultural capital and as objects to provoke an audience under the pretense of being "edgy." The article points out that Cyrus's objectification and use of black culture is modern minstrelsy.

So how do you stop it? Call it out. Calling it out is helpful because it means recognition of an abuse of power and ability.

Another way to subvert minstrelsy is to take the time to read texts about the black experience. Watch shows or films that are produced by someone with real experience as a member of that community. However, do NOT think that it is representative of all black people. Recognize the relationship between racist systems and power. Do NOT think that you know what black people experience in this country because you have seen "Get Out," for example. Instead, recognize that these voices have a complex relationship with systems of power. Rejecting and fighting minstrelsy is an effort to reject and fight stereotypes that negatively affect marginalized communities. So, try to identify the relationship with power, and question why those negative stereotypes exist and how this influences your interactions with black people.

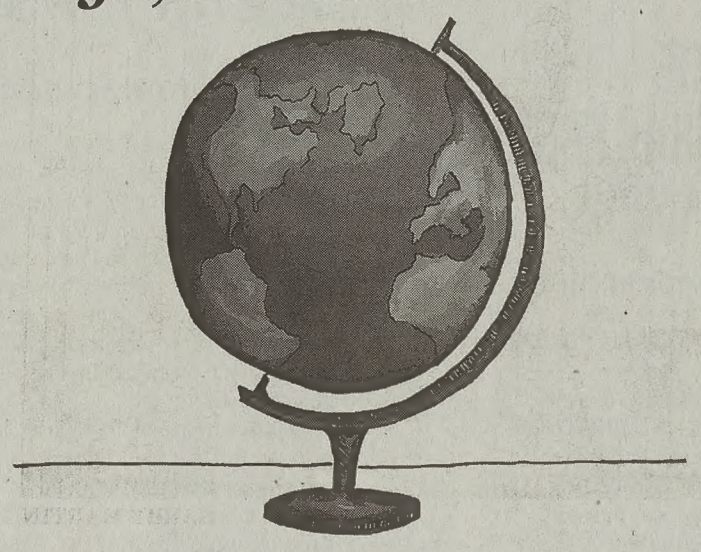
Finally, in supporting black artists, or artists who are representing their own experience, we are supporting a community for what it is, as it is lived by those individuals, not for what we think about those communities.

Alexis Levato is a member of the Middlebury College Class of 2019.

Foreign Correspondents: Edinburgh, Scotland

BY HOPE ALLISON

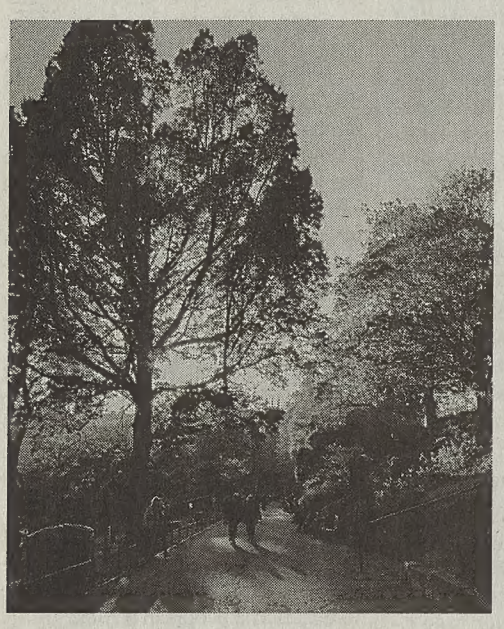
Editor's Note: This is an installment of the weekly column Foreign Correspondents, which will chronicle Middlebury students' experiences studying abroad. Here, Hope Allison '19.5 shows snapshots of her life in Edinburgh.



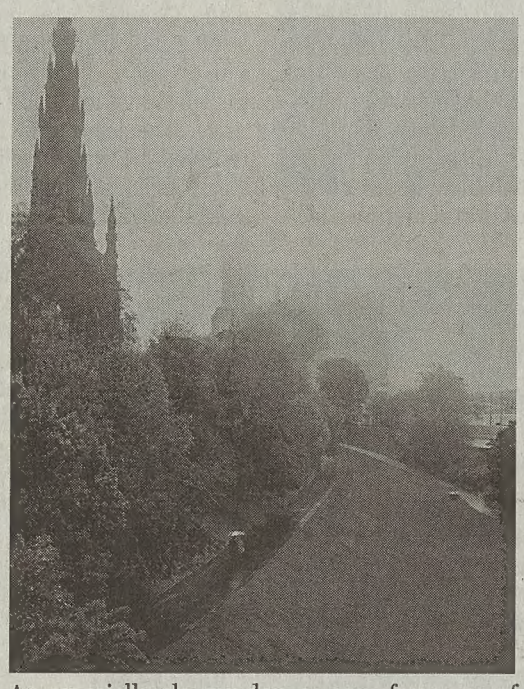
I feel I'm at a delicate moment during my life here; three months in, I feel I've finally settled in, but there are still moments of newness. I try to savor this feeling, this balance between the foreign and the familiar, the strange and the routine. It's been a wonderful time to photograph, because everything seems beautiful to me — either because of its novelty or because of its everyday simplicity. I hope this feeling lasts.

I'm struck by the light — by its variety and richness, and now, almost December, by its brevity. There are times it is soft and diffuse, times where the day never really seems to get bright, the days I light candles at lunchtime. And then there are times it is blinding, harsh golden beams striking out from dark gray clouds. The light is in constant flux, making everything seem at once unreal and hyper-real, where even the familiar sights are rendered anew. In the words of Alexander McCall Smith, "This is a city of shifting light, of changing skies, of sudden vistas, a city so beautiful it breaks the heart again and again."

It's hard to believe how quickly this semester went, and I feel lucky to have another one ahead of me. If nothing else, these photos are a love letter to Edinburgh and its dwindling autumn light.

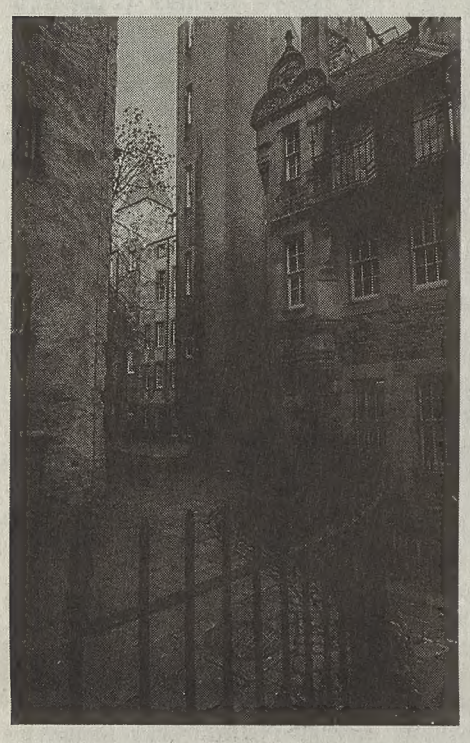


An October sunset in Princes Street Gardens.

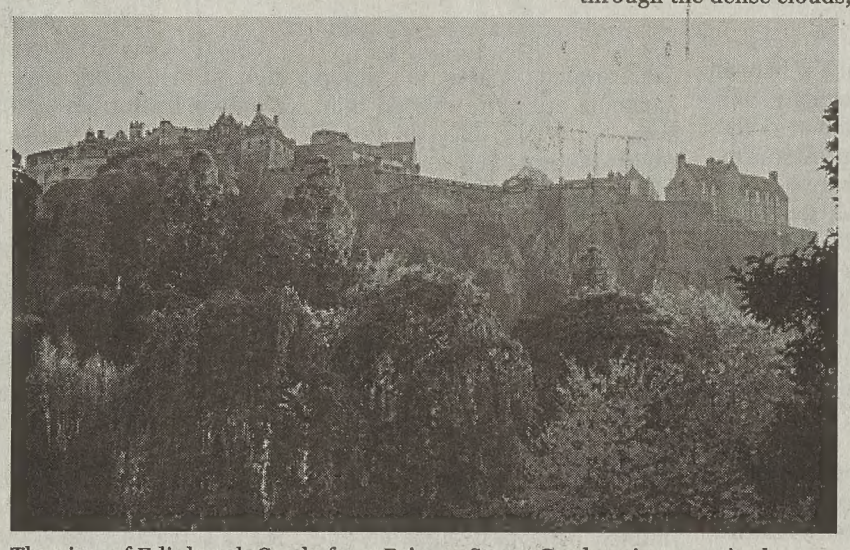


An especially gloomy day, as seen from one of the bridges that connects the New Town to the Old.

Just 20 minutes from the center of the city, the Pentlands Hills make Edinburgh a hiker's dream city. On this hike in particular, warm sun occasionally made its way through the dense clouds, a reprieve from the gusts of cold wind.

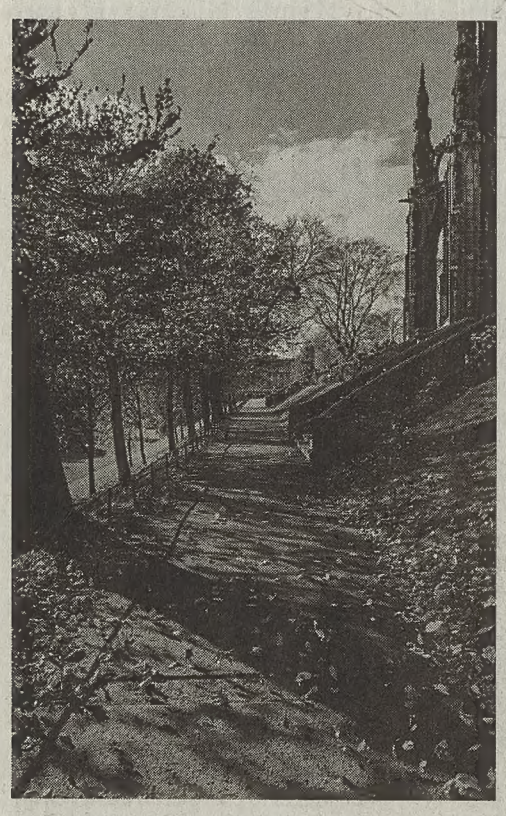


A favorite corner in Old Town, featuring the Writer's Museum (right).

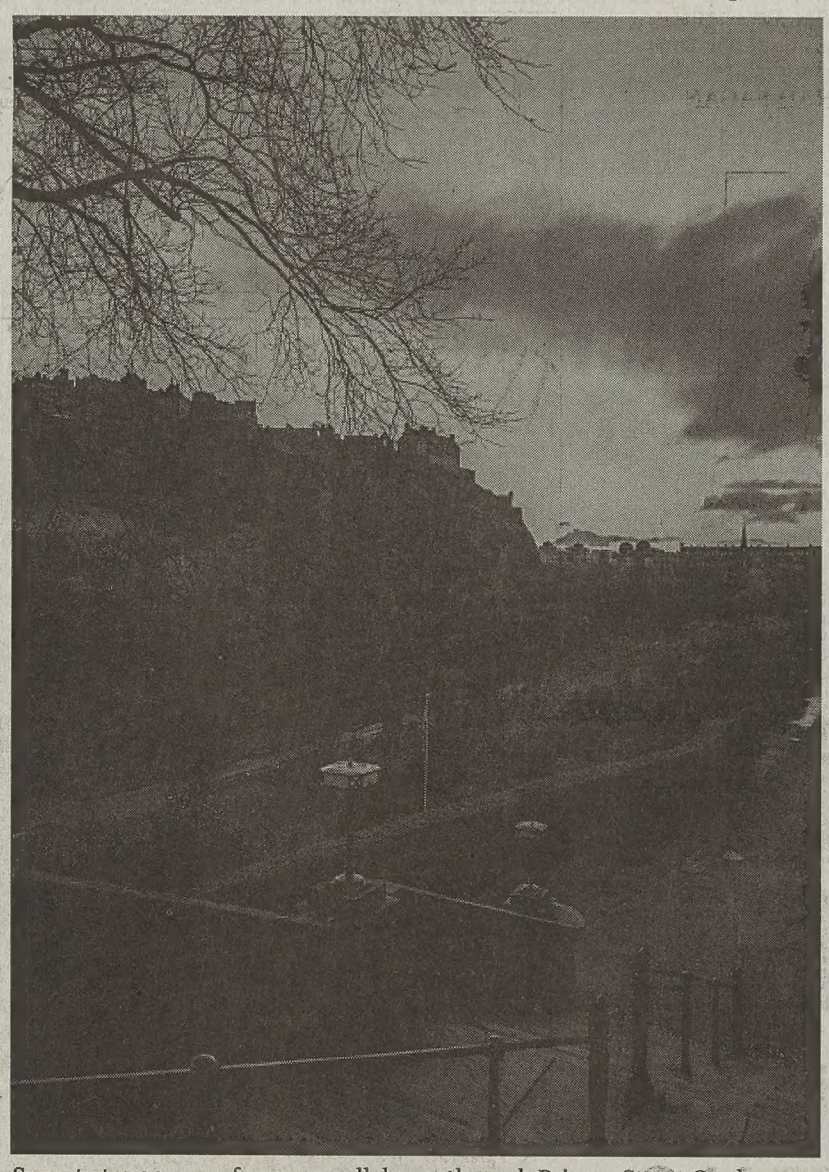


The view of Edinburgh Castle from Princes Street Gardens in sunset's glow.

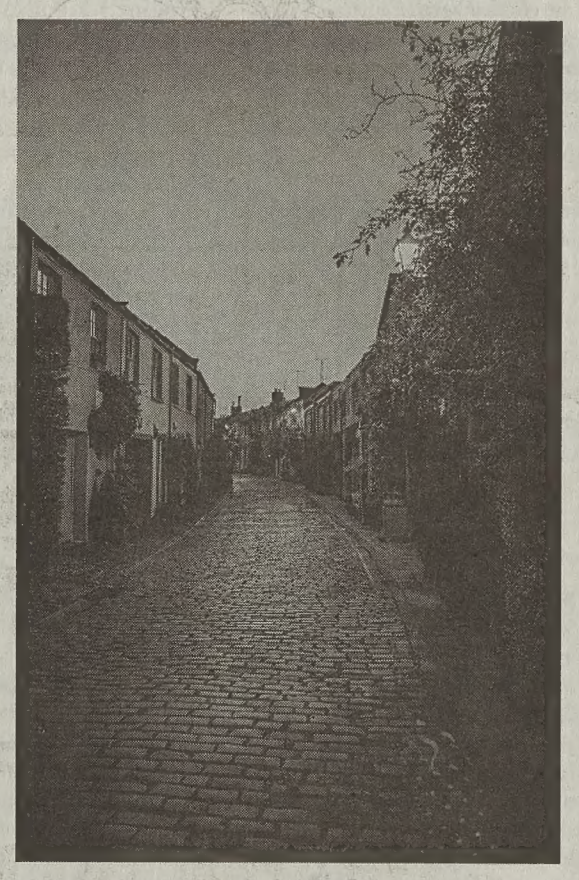
The morning light can make even the most mundane sights seem miraculous.



Though Scotland is known for its rainy weather, most of the rain actually comes in from over the Atlantic and pours on the west coast. On the east coast, the wind makes Edinburgh a blustery northern capital. Pictured is the Walter Scott Monument (right).

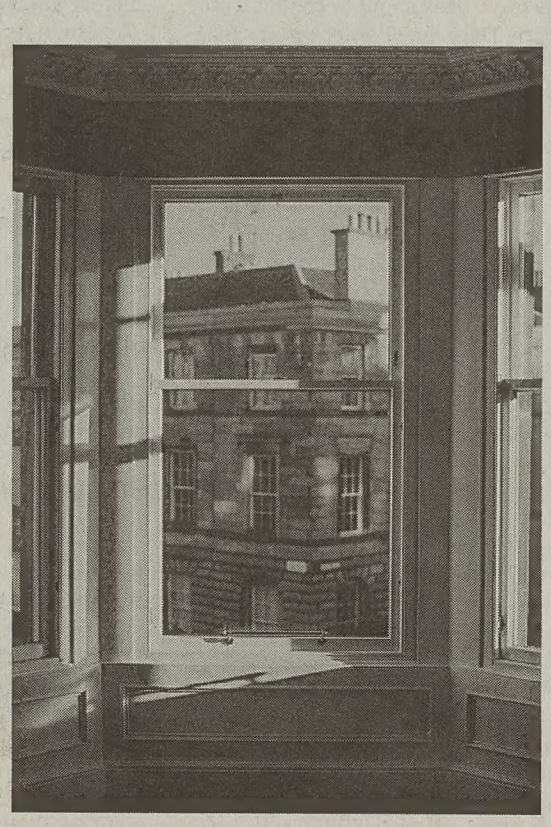


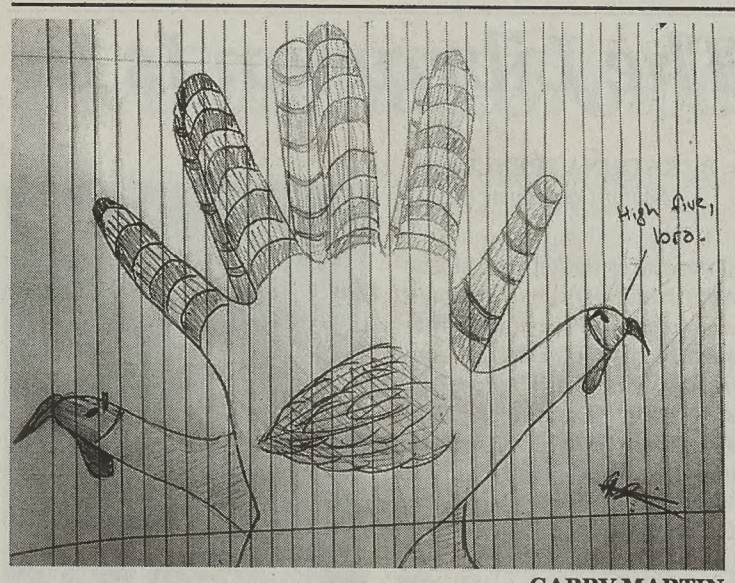
Sunset at 4:02 p.m., from my walk home through Princes Street Gardens.



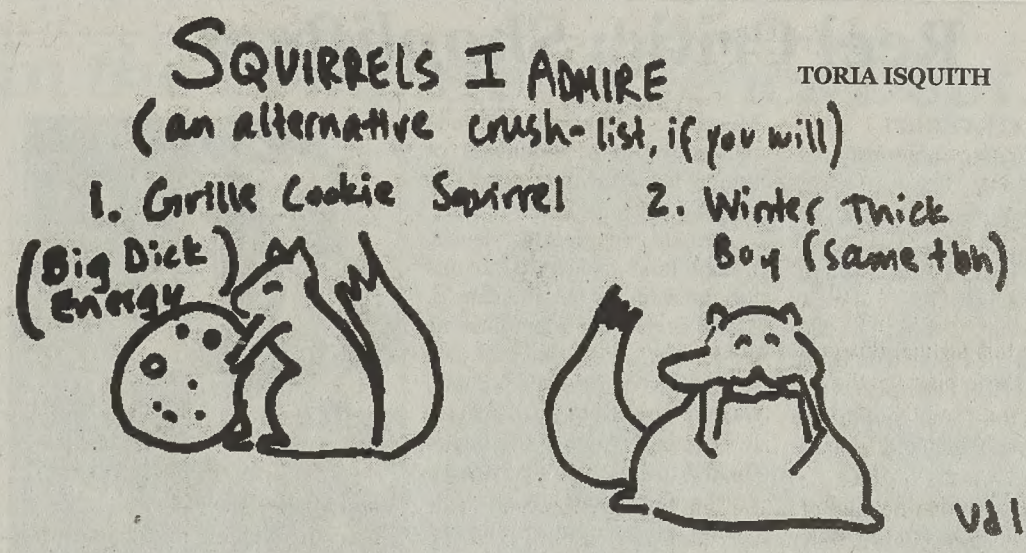
One of my favorite streets, Circus Lane.

Even at night, Edinburgh's beauty sparkles. The glass roofs over Waverley Train Station make for a glimmering city center (left). My living-room windows (right): With the days getting shorter and shorter, this early-morning light is the only direct sunlight that streams into the flat (I savor it every day (gotta get that vitamin D).)



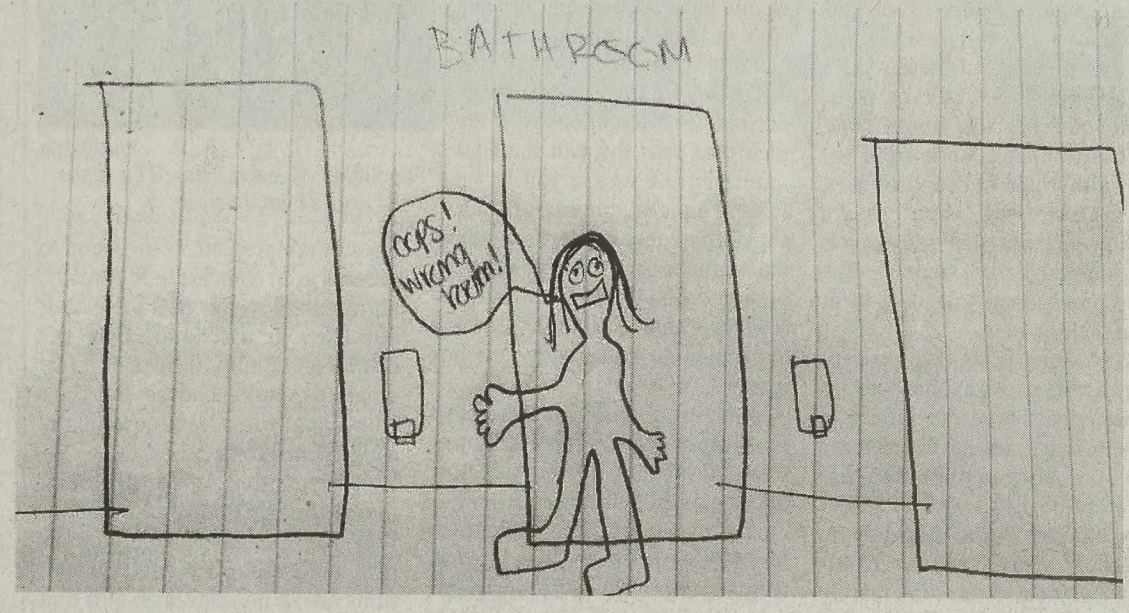


GABBY MARTIN

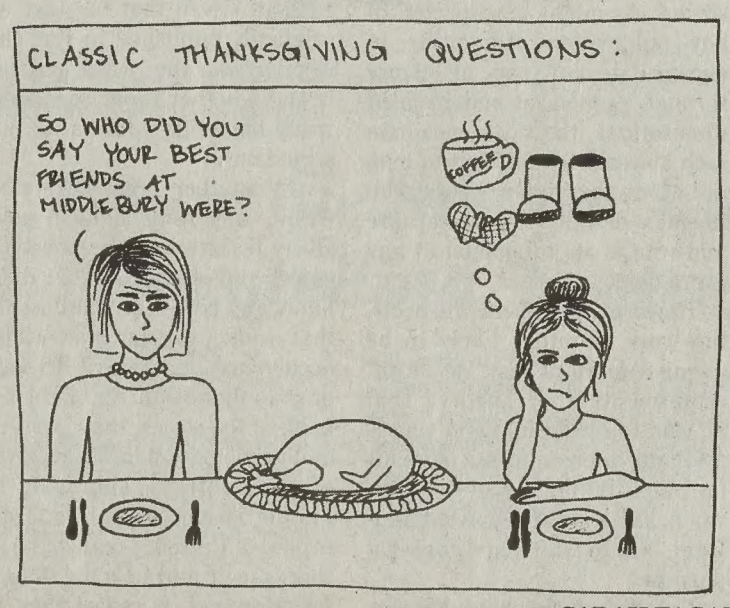


TORIA ISQUITH

JENNY MOSS



KATIE MARSHALL



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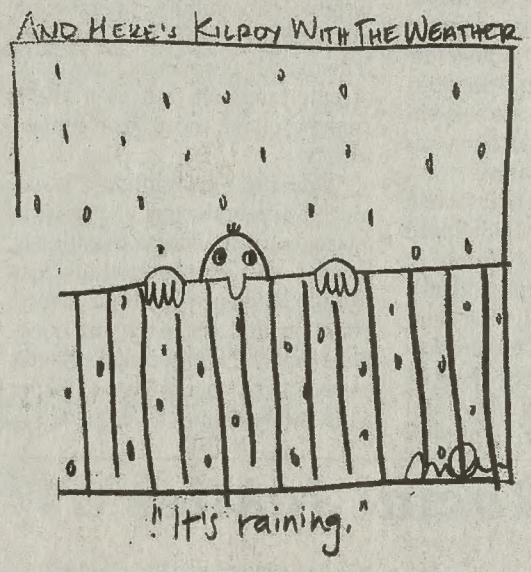

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Reel Critic: *Shoplifters*

By ELSA KORPI
Contributing Columnist

Hirokazu Kore-eda's 2018 film "Shoplifters" (Manbiki kazoku) illustrates the life of a Japanese family as they navigate life in poverty in contemporary Tokyo. The film was awarded the Palme d'Or at the 2018 Cannes Film Festival and was screened at the Dana Auditorium as part of the Hirschfield International Series.

As Osamu Shibata (Lily Franky) and his wife Nobuyo (Sakura Ando) have no reliable source of income, the family survives on shoplifting and grandmother Hatsue's (Kirin Kiki) pension. One evening as Osamu and his son Shota (Kairi Jo) are walking home from the store with their stolen groceries, they discover Juri (Miyu Sasaki), a young girl who they suspect is being abused by her parents. The family proceeds to take Juri in as one of their own.

Every scene is its own concept that presents us with a new palette of rich hues. Shots are long and still, allowing us to take in the many shades unfolding in front of us that shift from cool to warm to reflect changes in mood and atmosphere. Kore-eda's visuals are so captivating by themselves that merely sitting in the auditorium feels gluttonous.

Equally enchanting is the realism of the film's set design. The family's miniscule apartment looks so lived-in that it is difficult to think of it as artificial. Whether it be empty cardboard boxes stacked in the kitchen or the sitting cushions scattered across the floor, the positioning of every piece of clutter seems essential. As the family sits around the low table in their ramshackle living room, the slurping of noodles dominates the soundscape. Conversation is sporadic and loosely scripted. Reminiscent of Hayao Miyazaki's animations, Kore-eda makes the most mundane of events feel charming. There is nothing excessive here.

Despite its elegant visuals, "Shoplifters" makes no excuses for the family's outlandishness. Aside from their kleptomaniac tendencies, their internal dynamics are questionable. Shota, Osamu and Nobuyo repeatedly negotiate whether the boy is "ready" to call them his parents. Furthermore, as Aki (Mayu Matsuoka) is pictured comforting clients at her job at a Tokyo sex club, it is clear that her idea of genuine intimacy is skewed. There seems to be little difference in her interactions with the men that pass through the chat room and the way in which she talks to her grandmother. By not explaining these quirks Kore-eda maintains a steady ironic distance between his characters and the audience, thus adding yet another dimension to an already complex film.

It is this obscurity that leads us to consider the film's central questions. Although we know that Juri has been forcefully taken from her biological parents, it is difficult to convince yourself that she belongs with anyone else. As Nobuyo and Juri compare burn scars on their grimy bathroom floor, the sense of genuine care for one another is undeniable. Blurring the lines between right and wrong, "Shoplifters" makes us step outside conventional definitions and ask ourselves what really defines a family.

Taking into account that Osamu and Nobuyo essentially kidnapped Juri with little apprehension, it should come as no surprise that it is not the only morally questionable act the two have committed. After Shota is caught shoplifting by store clerks and the family's past is revealed to us, the truth unfolds faster than we can even begin to process it. In contrast to the steady, harmonious scenes that have built our trust in the family over the course of the film, flashes of interrogations, police badges and their empty apartment leave us to fill the gaps in ourselves.

WIKIPEDIA
"Shoplifters" won the Palme d'Or at the 2018 Cannes Film Festival.

Perhaps this is exactly what makes the film so taxing to follow. Kore-eda repeatedly reminds us that our assumptions and conclusions are of no relevance, and that his film is not intended to be comfortable. "Shoplifters" operates on its own plane and on its own terms. It demands to be seen not as a piece of entertainment, but as a sharp analysis of the most basic unit of society.

Watching "Shoplifters" is as much a cerebral experience as it is a visual one: the film is relentlessly focused and expects nothing less from its audience. With his skilled direction and the poignant questions that the film raises, Kore-eda creates a grip that holds us still for a full two hours.

The Librarian Is In

By KATRINA SPENCER
Senior Columnist

Literatures & Cultures Librarian Katrina Spencer is liaison to the Anderson Freeman Center, the Arabic Department, the Comparative Literature Program, the Gender, Sexuality & Feminist Studies (GSFS) Program, the Language Schools, the Linguistics Program and the Department of Spanish and Portuguese.

Best of Enemies: A History of U.S. and Middle East Relations, Part I,

by Jean-Pierre Filiu and illustrated by David B., 2012

HARRY N. ABRAMS

This book is a mess. Or as the young people say, "It's messy." It's a graphic novel, published in a series. It comes in three parts and attempts to explain the historical relationship(s) between the United States and the broadly defined Middle Eastern region. As might be expected of any publication attempting to encapsulate 170 years of history through sequenced and paneled illustrations, the text's narrative arch is weak. It's difficult to map out where the climax occurs, who the most definitive characters are and who is an antagonist at any given point in time.

However, in these respects, the work is rather likely to be giving a more or less "accurate" representation of history. That is, who is a hero(ine) and who is a villain often (always) depends on who is telling the story — and when, and why, and on what platform, and to whom and for what purpose.

I picked up this book because conflict and antagonism between the United States, its "allies" and the Middle East has been a constant backdrop for the entirety of my life. (I'm 33 at the time of this writing.) And I've always been dazed and confused in attempting to find an entry point to answer the question of "Why?" I want to know how it all began and and why it continues. This work sheds more light but does not offer clear-cut answers. I suspect that most international, armed conflicts are about securing access to resources and maintaining or demanding sovereignty.

In this work, however, knowing who's in charge and when is dizzying. As suggested, I'm not as versed on the cultures of this region as I'd like to be. When reading the text, I encountered titles of rank, esteem and power like "shah," "pasha" and "bey" knowing little, if any, difference between them.

The clearest information I got on this text came from the presumably American Good Reads reviewer, Robert Boyd: "It is a brief retelling of U.S./Middle east (sic) relations, starting with our early wars with the Barbary pirate states, our inability to prevent France and Britain from carving up the Ottoman empire after World War I, our establishment of friendly relations with the Saudis during World War II (as a guarantee of oil supplies for the war effort), and finally our involvement in the Iranian coup that set the Shah up as dictator. The book stops in 1953."

I wanted the author to do more to educate me, but his intended audience may not have needed that. Given that the text was originally published in French, I wonder who the target audience is and whether those readers already have this information well sorted out.

On another note, the tale(s) within this tome almost exclusively feature male perspectives, voices and characters. If I didn't know any better, I could assume that women were an aberrational occurrence once every 60 years or so in the region. So, in the first book of the series, their presence and participation in the evolution of 18 countries comprising the Middle Eastern region is largely capital-E Erased. I realize the author is male and so is the illustrator. However, it seems they felt virtually no pressure in representing 50 percent of the population impacted by the U.S.-Middle Eastern relations. "How, Sway?"

This work is likely best for people who already have some general or specific knowledge and timeframe regarding Middle Eastern politics and enjoy the idea of seeing it drawn in graphic-novel form. The less educated on this theme, like myself, will likely need to familiarize themselves with the greatest highlights from the broad region first in order to best appreciate its content, structure and visuals.

It is a work that necessitates that the reader bring knowledge to the text. For other graphic novels that touch on the Middle East and the Near East, I recommend "juifs arabes" by Farid Boudjellal and the acclaimed "Persepolis" by Marjane Satrapi, which I have yet to read.

'Showing Up for Racial Justice' Sparks Conversation at the Marquis

By RILEY BOARD
Contributing Writer

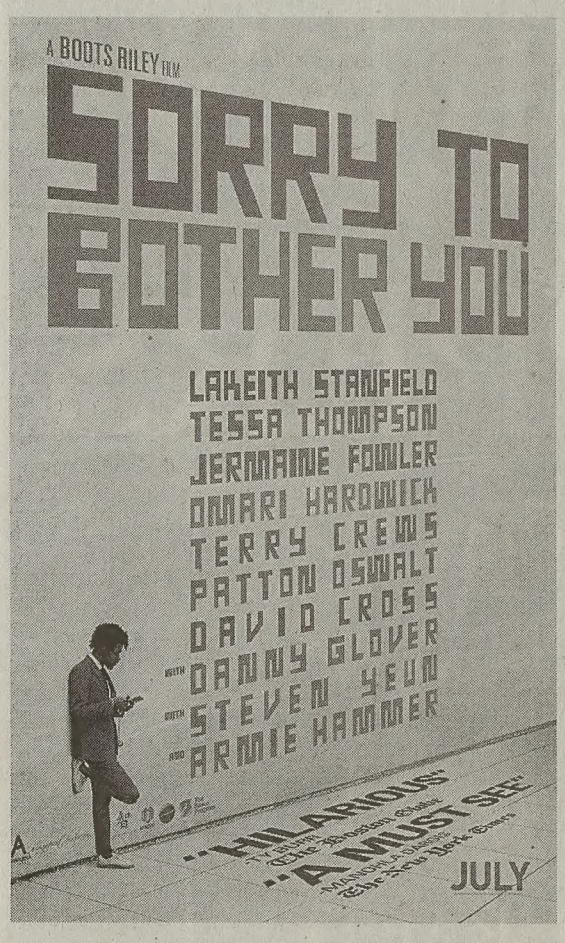
College students and the community have the opportunity again this year to come together for racial justice and movies — the Middlebury Marquis will be organizing their Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) film series for the second time this winter with a new selection of films and fundraisers.

The Marquis partnered with the national organization SURJ, which encourages white people to fight for racial justice and organize against racism, and Black Lives Matter Vermont to show films to the Middlebury community that highlight themes of racial justice and discrimination. The Marquis first joined with SURJ to put on the film "I Am Not Your Negro," a film about black writer and social critic James Baldwin, in 2017. After the success of that showing, Marquis owner Ben Wells decided it was time to expand their mission into a film series.

"It is an opportunity where people from the community can come together and talk about some of the events and issues in the world specifically around racial justice, or the lack thereof," Wells said.

Last year's film series covered a variety of topics, from the influence of Native Americans on rock 'n' roll music to the Loving v. Virginia Supreme Court case that legalized interracial marriage, to the killing of Michael Brown and the Ferguson uprisings and more.

The first selection this year, which was shown on Wednesday, Nov. 14, was "Sorry to Bother You," a 2018 film that addresses race and poverty in the context of telemarketing. The film is based on a short story by rapper and writer Boots Riley, and portrays a young black man named Cassius Green in an alternate modern-day Oakland, California, who takes a job as a telemarketer. In the business, he learns about the power of the "white voice" and uses an affected speaking style to talk to customers on the phone, making more sales as a result of the voice. Success in telemarketing, however, has consequences, as Cassius is asked to sell things he isn't comfortable selling.



ANNAPURNA PICTURES
"Sorry to Bother You" will be playing at the Hirschfield Series on Saturday, Dec. 1 in Dana Auditorium at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. for free.

"Sorry to Bother You" is a perfect film for the series, because it includes strong themes of racial justice and is also a captivating and interesting film with elements of magical realism and humor. The film will also be shown on campus as part of the Hirschfield Series on Saturday, Dec. 1 in the Dana Auditorium, at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Next in the series, the Marquis will be showing "The Hate U Give," a 2018 film about a teenage black girl who witnesses the shooting of a friend by a cop and her subsequent involvement in the world of advocacy and civil rights in response to his death. The film will be playing on Wednesday, Dec. 12.

Although there will be a break in the series for January, the theater is considering a couple of films for the following months, including "Green Book," about the friendship between a black pianist and an Italian-American man from the Bronx; "Blindspotting," about a pair of friends whose relationship is tested after they witness a police shooting; and "The Miseducation of Cameron Post," about teenagers in a gay conversion therapy camp.

All of the films are associated with a fundraiser organized through SURJ. The showing of "Sorry to Bother You" raised money for Monica Cannon, a Black Lives Matter activist in Boston, who is pregnant and unable to afford a doula. Past fundraisers have involved the Vermont chapter of the ACLU, the African American Policy Forum in NYC, Black Lives Matter VT, the Addison Allies Network, Migrant Justice, The Nulhegan Abenaki Tribe and the Rutland Area NAACP.

Wells sees the SURJ series as an opportunity to open new eyes to racial inequality and discrimination throughout the country. SURJ organizers Kathy Comstock and Joanna Colwell hope that the majority-white Middlebury community learns from the series, and that individuals who might not be exposed to or aware of certain aspects of racial justice have such an opportunity.

"What I hope is that our Middlebury community can get more comfortable with the fact that we are a very white town, and we need to acknowledge the privilege that this affords us," Comstock said.

Colwell said, "I feel like our mostly white, progressive community is inching toward a better understanding of race, and I hope we white people are getting a bit closer to understanding our own whiteness, and understanding all the racist messages we have absorbed, and the harm that we cause when we don't work to dismantle white supremacy in ourselves and the spaces we inhabit."

SURJ is an organization that has faced opposition in the past because of lack of accountability to people of color-led organizations and the debate over the existence of white-led racial justice groups. However, the Middlebury chapter of SURJ makes extensive efforts to stay accountable by sharing financial resources with organizations led by people of color, and by showing up to events run by these groups in support and solidarity. They also work to encourage community members to become a part of Black Lives Matter VT and are hoping to form a relationship with the Black Student Union on campus.

Film as a medium has incredible value, and can be used in important and influential ways.

"I hope that these films give us the platform to stand on and become more verbal and physically active to change the inequities that exist in our neighborhoods and in our country," Comstock said.

DON'T MISS THIS

ISO Show
The annual ISO (International Students' Organization) Show is the biggest performance at Middlebury every year. There are numerous dances, music and spoken words from all over the world led by our own international student body. Come for a night of cultural sharing with beautiful poetry, moving songs and energetic dances!
Friday 11/30, 8-10 p.m., Wilson Hall

Men on Boats
Ten explorers. Four boats. One Grand Canyon. This play by Jaclyn Backhaus is the true(ish) history of an 1869 expedition, when a one-armed captain and a crew of insane yet loyal volunteers set out to chart the course of the Colorado River (and in 2018, it's women in those boats). Directed by Cheryl Faraone.
Friday 11/30, 7:30 p.m., Saturday 12/01, 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m., Sunday 12/02, 7:30 p.m., Seeler Studio Theater at MCA

Jupiter Quartet
When the Washington Post titles a concert review "Jupiter String Quartet delivers on its name with an out-of-this-world performance," you can begin to understand why this ensemble is a longtime Middlebury favorite. The quartet celebrates Debussy in this centenary year of his passing, with a program of Ravel and Debussy's solitary string quartets, plus Dutilleux's Ainsi la nuit. Pre-concert lecture by Professor of Music Larry Hamberlin, 6:30 PM, MCA Room 221.
Friday 11/30, 7:30 p.m., Robison Concert Hall at MCA

Analyzing Growth in the Computer Science Dept.

Continued from Page 1

Course enrollment has grown tremendously, too. A decade ago, the computer science faculty taught an average of 210 students per year. This past year's total enrollment rose to over 1000 students, with an additional rise to about 1150 expected by 2020.

Middlebury students and faculty have designed complex computer programs capable of drawing and animating pictures on the screen, solving computational puzzles and detecting dangerous and abnormal crowd behavior using computer vision techniques. But Middlebury faculty also emphasize the basics — Scharstein reasoned that, far from being a vocational field of study, computing is a basic skill, just like reading, writing and arithmetic.

"I honestly think everyone should take an intro to CS class," said Aiko Hassett '20, a computer science major. "Technology is becoming such a huge part of our daily lives," Hassett observed, that simply knowing the basics of computer science can help one gain "some fresh creative insights" and a better understanding of how our society works.

"[Programming] trains your brain in another way of thinking," Scharstein said. "You learn how to put lines together that put these computations together for you. [Computing] teaches you precision — one missing semicolon and your code won't run," he said. "But it's also an art." A single code could be written in a hundred different ways, each resulting in a different solution with its own unique pros and cons.

"Coding, for me, is like a completely new language," Emely Zeledon '20 said. "When I approach a problem, I have to first stop and plan out every single step that I'll have to take to get to the final solution. You have to be methodical yet concise, and that's a skill that is valuable in many careers."

A Molecular Biology and Biochemistry major, Zeledon noted that CS is integral in the field of molecular biology and biochemistry, as it is in many others, because of "its ability to make algorithms, predict patterns and [organize and interpret] data."

Professor Matthew Dickerson, who has taught in the CS department at Middlebury for almost 30 years, echoed this view.

"[Computing] doesn't just mean sitting in front of a terminal writing computer programs," he said.

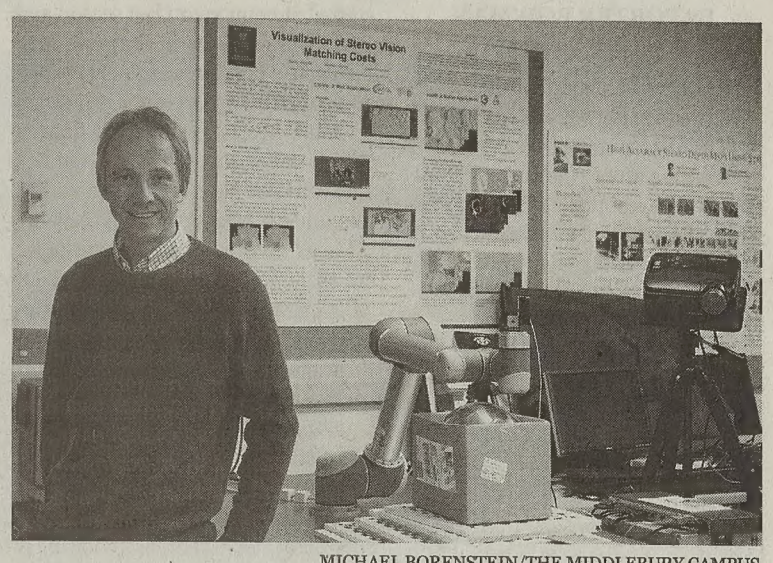
Students of CS are discovering an exciting field with computational aspects that extend into not only the sciences, but also art, music, history and economics, Dickerson explained.

The data supports this observation, too. In the Fall 2017 Student Profile released by Middlebury's Office of Assessment and Institutional Research, more than a third of the 101 declared computer science majors also double-majored in another discipline.

Thea Bean '19 took one of the department's introductory courses, Computing for the Sciences, because she wanted to become a more well-rounded scientist. She believes that her background in both biology and coding was what helped her get a job this past summer.

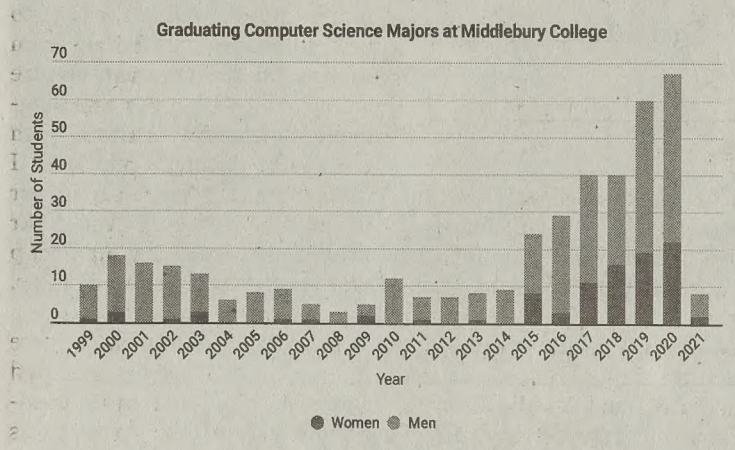
With larger enrollments, however, come changes in dynamics both in the classroom and in the department. In introductory classes, for example, faculty are tasked with accommodating students with vastly different levels of CS experience. Some have taken advanced computing courses in high school, while others have next to no prior exposure to the field.

"The professors somewhat struggled to teach in a way that challenged every level," Bean said.



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Daniel Scharstein is one of eight professors teaching some of the hundreds of computer science students this semester.



SOURCE: DANIEL SCHARSTEIN

Organizations such as wiCS++ work to support women and historically underrepresented groups majoring and working in STEM fields at Middlebury.

Compared to students with previous knowledge and experience in CS, for whom the introductory classes may be only mildly difficult, students without background in the field can find the introductory classes to be quite challenging.

"Success in the class can depend on the student's ability to attend office hours as well as TA hours," said Zeledon, citing a common problem faced by students whose packed class and extracurricular schedules get in the way of seeking help outside of the classroom.

Zeledon felt that the level of difficulty in introductory computer science courses has "increased in comparison to past semesters as a function of the spiked interest in CS majors," reflecting that taking a CS course helped her "feel more comfortable with failure being part of the journey to success."

The department now has eight full-time faculty on campus, with three joining the team in the past academic year. Even with three new tenure-track lines granted in the last two years, however, the computer science department remains severely short-staffed.

Middlebury's average faculty-to-student ratio is one to eight. With more than 1000 students enrolled in CS classes last year and only eight full-time professors on campus to teach those classes, the faculty to student ratio for the CS department is higher than one to 50. Naturally, the department is currently searching for its 11th full-time faculty member.

"We want to serve all the students," Dickerson said. "But it's hard with that many students."

"It's harder for me to get to know the names of students when there are 30 of them instead of 12," he admitted. "In a bigger class, there may be students who feel less comfortable asking questions. [During office hours,] if there are 10 students waiting in line for help, one student might not get as much individual help or attention."

The department employs a full-time Assistant in Instruction, Ruben Gilbert, to aid students — a system that imitates the teaching assistant model commonly found at larger research universities. According to Bean, Gilbert's help was crucial to her success in the class. "I learned most of what I know from Ruben," she said.

A larger faculty brings the possibility of offering more electives, and larger student enrollment brings energy to the CS scene at Middlebury, Dickerson said. However, he noted, "it's easier to create energy when you have a lot of people but harder to create community."

Student organizations such as Middle Endian and wiCS++, as well as summer research experiences and group projects in classes help build community, Dickerson explained. Middle Endian, whose name is a play on the concept of endianness, the order in which numbers are stored in bytes, aims to foster a sense of community within CS at Middlebury. wiCS++, which stands for women in computer science, aims to create a culture and space for historically underrepresented groups in the field.

The percentage of women CS majors at Middlebury wavers at around 33 percent. Hassett said that the gender distribution in the CS department was better than she originally thought, but noted that "as a woman in STEM, and especially CS, it's so easy to feel doubtful of your ability," calling for a community of "females who support, encourage and inspire one another."

TIGHT FOR SPACE

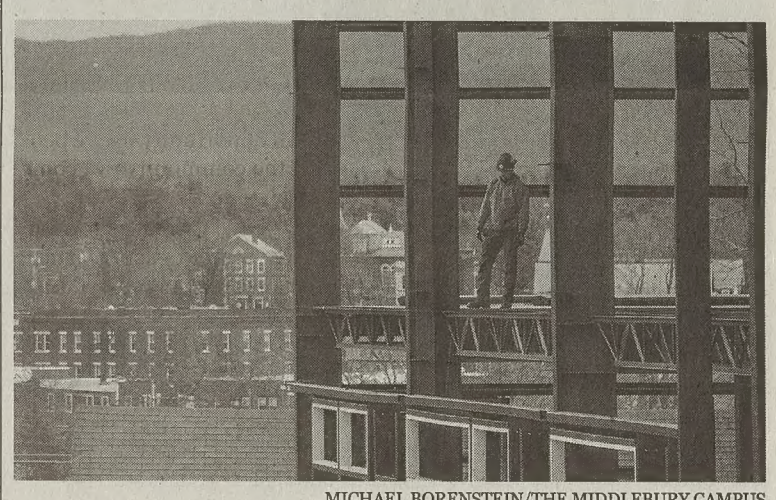
The department's growth was a major factor behind the construction of the new transitional building on the south side of the parking lot behind Wright Memorial Theatre. The new building, expected to be completed in June 2019, will house the CS department and provide office space for other departments, giving the CS department more room to grow and freeing up much-needed lab area for other science departments in McCardell Bicentennial Hall.

"There's a certain exciting event energy in BiHall," said Dickerson, but "we are tight for space up there."

It turns out, however, that this move might bring a couple of drawbacks of its own.

"It'll be a huge blow, as far as I'm concerned," said Professor of Biology Jeremy Ward of the anticipated relocation.

For Ward, the physical presence of the computer science department in BiHall fosters collaboration between the scientific disciplines.



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Construction is underway on the building that will house the growing computer science department.

"I'm not going to see Michael in the elevator again," he said, referring to Professor Michael Linderman, whose research in genomics overlaps with Ward's. "Computer science is now fully integrated into every science discipline — I couldn't do any of the work I do now without computer science," he said. "But there's always email."

Dickerson said he also regrets the move away from colleagues in the sciences. "I will miss the collaborations with other science disciplines and seeing students from other majors in BiHall," he said. "It's nice to walk up and down the stairs and see my colleagues in geology or chemistry, and I think it's nice for students in computer science to interact with other students in other majors."

A white paper report from the National Academy of Sciences in 2016 suggests that an increase in demand for graduates with quantitative skills is a possible reason for the increase in demand for CS majors.

According to data from the Center for Careers and Internships, 11 percent of Middlebury students who graduated in 2017 pursued careers in technology.

"It's not that there [are] 10 times as many students who are interested in computer science," explained Dickerson. "You also get students who do computer science because they think it'll get them employed."

But the notion of learning for learning's sake, a foundational principle of a liberal arts education, remains alive within the CS department. Dickerson noted that it is not unheard of for students to declare a CS major for practical reasons, only to discover a passion for the discipline further down the line

"I don't judge their motivations," Dickerson said. "I'm just here to teach whatever they want to learn."

'Break the Silence' Encourages Storytelling, Unites Women

By QIAN LI
Senior Writer

"That's what we need to do, step up, show up and break the silence," said Senator Christopher Bray on Thursday, Nov. 15 as he introduced "Break the Silence" to the audience at the Town Hall Theatre. In the film, documentary filmmaker Willow O'Feral explored sexual reproductive justice and gender justice by featuring reproductive and sexual health stories of a diverse group of 17 women from Brattleboro, Vermont.

"Break the Silence" was not a project formed by chance, but a project born as a direct response to the presidential election two years ago. A few weeks after the election, O'Feral came together with a group of women and formed the Women's Action Team, a feminist collective in Brattleboro. As the group was discussing ways to protect women's autonomy over their own bodies and lives, storytelling came naturally to their discussion.

"We were talking about how storytelling was so visceral and core to [changing] people's hearts and minds," said O'Feral during the panel discussion after the screening. "Hearing someone expressing their lived experience with vulnerability, it is really hard to be judgmental."

Starting the project with no funding, O'Feral was constrained by the limited tools available in her little studio. However, with only one white backdrop, one camera, one tripod, one light and one lavalier microphone, O'Feral managed to record authentic voices of women who shared candidly some of their most personal, intimate and vulnerable experiences, discussing topics such as their first time having sex, birth control, abortion, sexual assault and pregnancy. Though produced under technical constraints, the result was more than powerful.

For Lucy Leriche, Vice President of Public Policy at Planned Parenthood of Northern New England and one of the three panelists at the discussion, it was not the first time seeing "Break the Silence." Nonetheless, it moved her to tears just as it had the first time she watched it.

"What really strikes me about this is that people are letting themselves [be] so vulnerable. There is so much shame in so many of those stories, but the courage of the people enabled them to tell their stories, to overcome that shame, and to rip through it to survive," Leriche said.

The style of simplicity not only corresponded to those stories, but cultivated a raw and powerful intimacy throughout the interviews presented in the film and let the stories tell themselves. By zooming in and out during the interviews, O'Feral let the camera mirror the story and allowed the audience to "become intimate with the person when she is revealing a vulnerable part of her story."

"When I could tell someone was getting to an emotional part of their story, I usually zoomed in so that you felt more intimate, and zoomed out when she was telling the background or the context of the story," O'Feral said.

O'Feral had difficulty putting together a representative group of women with a broad diversity of age, race, experience, economic background and gender and sexuality experiences.

"It is a feminine project, so I wanted cis women, trans women, women of color, white women, young and old women, women who have more or less money, coming from privileges or no privileges," O'Feral explained.

With the first five or six volunteers, who were all white, middle-class, straight women, on board, O'Feral realized that she needed to seek out different kinds of women, and it took her a while to feel comfortable approaching people and asking them to be part of the project.

"I felt a little awkward approaching women of color and saying, 'Can you please be part of my project because I want to include women of color?' I felt I was targeting them racially. But all of them were so happy that I wanted to be diverse. Every woman of color I asked said yes," she said with a smile.

O'Feral reached out to transgender women in the community as well. One of the trans women featured in the film actually turned O'Feral down when she first reached out, but eventually was touched by her patience and persistence at her third approach months later. O'Feral's efforts and persistence were worthwhile, as she gained trust in the local transgender community and more people came to her with their stories.

After the screening, the response from the audience was incredible. Several community members, who were all women, stepped forward one after another and shared their own stories or concerns with the panelists and the rest of the audience. One of the overarching themes from their response was the shared concern over the younger generations about how to educate them to have a healthy view of sex and gender.

Kerri Duquette-Hoffman, the executive director at WomenSafe, was another panelist at the discussion. As a mother of three kids, Duquette-Hoffman related to that concern.

"What strikes me about this film is that it is 2018 and people are still so hurt," Duquette-Hoffman said. "I think [the] first thing we can do is to be curious, and learn, and educate our children to make sure kids know the boundaries, have empathy building skills and understand one another."

While some of the icebreaker questions during the interviews included, "What was your first sexual experience?," "What was sex like at home or at school or at religious institutions?," etc., O'Feral never asked about sexual assault or rape. However, when asked about their first sexual experiences, half of the 17 women featured in the film said that their first sexual experience was being raped.

"So near the end of the project, I was like, God, I want to hear about really great sex, excellent, consensual, enthusiastic sex, and I started to pivot towards not just fight[ing] the world that is threatening, but [building] the world we want," said O'Feral.

The last woman O'Feral interviewed was Sheila. Starving for more positive stories at the end of the process, O'Feral asked Sheila about her first orgasm rather than her first sexual experience, which led to the opening of the film — Sheila sharing a happy sex experience. Even though that did result in an unwanted pregnancy, Sheila said she never regretted the sex.

When asked about Sheila and her positive sex experience, O'Feral said, "I interviewed her for two hours, and she sobbed through almost all of it. And this is the one happy story in that whole interview. I decided to choose that one because I felt like she was so raw and vulnerable in the rest of her interview and it did not feel right to present her as a broken person as I can see her beauty and strength in this story."

COURTESY PHOTO

O'Feral interviewed 17 women from a variety of backgrounds for her film.

Men's Basketball Has High Hoops Hopes

By PORTER BOWMAN
Contributing Writer

Following an exit in the NCAA Sweet Sixteen last season, the Middlebury men's basketball team will look to make a serious run for a NESCAC crown and another NCAA tournament appearance in this year's campaign. The Panthers certainly took a hit with the graduation of All-American Jack Daly '18 as well as experienced forwards Nick Tarantino '18 and Adisa Majors '18. Daly is the program's all-time leader in assists and ranks third all-time in steals.

Seniors Eric McCord '19 and Hilal Dahleh '19 will captain this year's squad. McCord has been a consistent rock throughout his Middlebury career, and will continue to control the glass and anchor the defense. With toughness as his defining characteristic, Dahleh can execute hard drives to the basket and hit contested shots on the perimeter.

Despite losing Daly, the Panthers' leading scorer from last season, Matt Folger '20, who averaged 13.7 points per game (PPG) last season, is one of the most gifted scorers on the team and will look to lead the Panthers from both the paint and the three-point line. Joey Leighton '20 backs up a consistent shot with the ability to run the floor with command and leadership. Perry DeLorenzo '20 provides tenacious defense and an aggressive game at the rim.

A large sophomore class will continue to provide crucial minutes for the Panther squad. Jack Farrell '21 started at point guard last season and likely will continue in that role with high speed and the team's best three-point percentage. Griffin Kornaker '21, Max Bosco '21 and Will Ingram '21 are skilled shooters and defenders who can keep plays alive as aggressive rebounders. Like Folger, Ryan Cahill '21 is as deadly from the three-point arc as he is on the block. James Finn '20.5 can run the floor and, like McCord, can clean up around the rim with plenty of rebounds and putbacks.

As for the new class of first-years, Alex Sobel '22 is a promising big man with unique skill around the rim, and a big presence in the paint on both ends of the floor. Thomas Zodda '22 is a speedy post player with great offensive and defensive reach alike. Nash Goldman '22, a skilled three-point shooter, has shown maturity in the preseason with his distribution abilities. Peter Carlson '22 will provide forward depth around the paint and has shown potential in his perimeter shooting as well.

This season will be Head Coach Jeff Brown's 22nd year managing the blue and white. He will be joined by returning assistants Russ Reilly and Rob Alberts, as well as new assistant Connor Merrill.

The team begins NESCAC play in January, and will play host to Connecticut College, Wesleyan, Trinity, Hamilton and Amherst over the course of the season. Away contests include bouts with Bates, Tufts, Williams, Bowdoin and Colby.

AIDAN ACOSTA/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
Panther forward Matt Folger '20 dribbles around the Bates perimeter. The Panthers defeated the Bobcats 82-76 last February.

AIDAN ACOSTA/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
Guard Perry DeLorenzo '20 attempts to disrupt a shot against NESCAC rival Bates last season.

Men's Hockey: Living Up to the Legacy?

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
Brett Dineen '20 focuses on advancing the puck against Hamilton. The Panthers battled the Continentals last season on Feb. 17, 2018.

By JENNY LANGERMAN
Senior Writer

Last year, the Middlebury men's hockey team seemed to stumble through their season, falling well short of a winning season with a 4-17-3 record. This year, however, it seems the Panthers are ready to retaliate and to come back proving they're better than ever.

The 2017-2018 season "was difficult for the team and coaching staff alike," according to junior captain Owen Powers. "While we were able to make serious strides towards the end of the season we were ultimately a young team that struggled to finish games, to score goals and be the first team to score in games."

It seems last season's difficulties stemmed from a disconnect in the team dynamic. "I think we had some of the right pieces but the culture and work ethic within the team was not fully there," said senior captain Kamil Tkazcuk. "We had really good players last year but we did not compete the right way."

Acknowledging these issues, the Panthers knew what to focus on in the offseason to prepare for the new year.

"We have really worked last spring and this fall to fix our team culture and work ethic both on and off the ice," Tkazcuk said. "The biggest difference from this year's squad and last year's is that everyone is working together towards a similar goal. Last year we worked more individually, this year is all team-oriented, stemming from the change in team culture."

In addition to improving upon weaknesses, the team was sure to take advantage of and build upon existing strengths, such as team chemistry. Powers explained that "the team chemistry is great. The dynamic in the locker room has been excellent and everyone gets along very well."

Tkazcuk agreed, calling this year's team "one of the closest, if not the closest, teams I have ever been a part of."

Moreover, the young team which the Panthers struggled to work with last year in turn only serves as a positive this year. "I think some strengths from last year's team is the core of the team. We lost some important seniors from last season but the core of the team remains intact," Tkazcuk explained.

The Panthers already hold a 2-2 record this season, defeating Colby and Plattsburgh but falling to Bowdoin and Norwich, and seem hopeful for what the future holds.

"I think both games we won, we dominated. Both games that we lost, we beat ourselves with penalties and mental errors; the opposing teams did not beat us," Tkazcuk said.

With this, Middlebury confidently knows what to expect heading into their upcoming matchups.

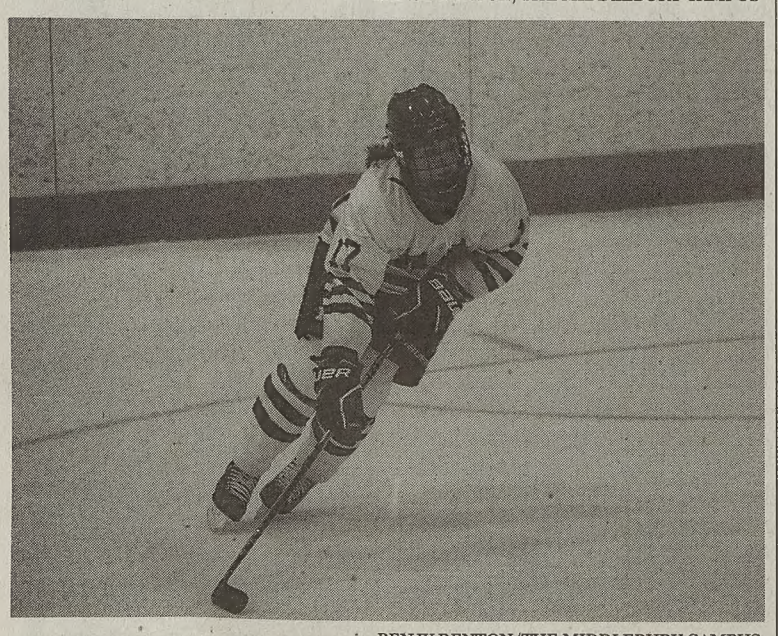
The Panthers even have their sights set on the NESCAC tournament, in which they made their most recent appearance just three years ago during the 2015-2016 season -- the last after a spectacular 21-year run.

Though facing a few hurdles and feeling the heat of this impressive legacy, this year's squad feels fired up and ready to go, rather than daunted.

"We are finally in a position where we know we can beat anyone," Powers said.

Women's Hockey Starts Season with 2-1-1 Record

BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS



BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
The women's ice hockey team (top) celebrates after Anna Zumwinkle '20 scores a goal against Adrian in the championship game of the Panther/Cardinal Classic on Nov. 25. Madie Leidt '21 (bottom) has achieved five assists so far this season.

Indoor Track and Field Ready to Kick Off Season, with Records in Sight

EMMA STAPLETON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
Panther runners compete in the 5000 meter run at the Middlebury Team Challenge on Feb. 16, 2018.

By JORDAN HOWELL
Senior Writer

As the new year rolls in, the indoor track and field season for both the men's and women's teams will commence. Last season, the men and women finished off well in the indoor NCAA Championships. The men were in a tie for twentieth place out of sixty-six teams. Jimmy Martinez '19 and the distance medley relay team (composed of Nathan Hill '20, Tyler Farrell '18, James Mulliken '18 and Kevin Serrao '18) also received All-American honors. The women didn't bring enough competitors to earn a definitive team placement, but outings from Kate McCluskey '18 in the 400-meter run and the distance medley relay team (composed of Tasha Greene '21, Meg Wilson '20, McCluskey and Abigail Nadler '19) were impressive.

In this new season, both teams will have lost runners, jumpers and throwers who have graduated. For the men, these include Serrao, Farrell, Mulliken and Mike Pallozzi '18. For the women, these include McCluskey, Kisha Kalra '18, Devon Player '18 and Brianna Bisson '18. These were all consistent performers during their time with the team who all were able to contribute to the Panthers' strong finishes last year.

Even with these losses, Middlebury still has talent that can lead the team to victory this year. A prime example is Martinez, who excelled in the 200-meter and 400-meter races last year. He also holds the indoor school records for the 200-meter, 400-meter, and 600-meter races (with times of 22:20, 47.81 and 1:21.24 respectively) as well as various Virtue Field House records. Minhaj Rahman '19 will also provide an important spark for this season. Last season, he consistently won the team points in the weight throw, and broke the school record for the weight throw with a throw of 56'6".

Talia Ruxin '20 and Nadler are poised to rise to the occasion as they were both among the key distance runners last season. Kreager Taber '19 was also a consistent pole vault performer last year and holds a school record for the event with 11'2.25". This short list of contributors doesn't even scratch the surface of the immense depth and talent that the team retains.

Even though the indoor track season is relatively short, the teams will face a number of challenges from tough opponents. The teams will also look forward to improving throughout the season in order to do their best at the Division III New England Championships and the NCAA Championships. As of right now, the season officially begins on Sunday, Jan. 6 as both the men and women compete in the Dartmouth Relays.

Women's Basketball Firing on All Cylinders

By LAUREN BOYD
Senior Writer

The Middlebury women's basketball team started off their season with three decisive wins against Lasell, Springfield and Castleton, as they outscored their opponents 218 to 130. Moving forward, the Panthers are creating a formula for success, which they hope to improve upon as they advance in their season.

The Panthers' offensive success can be attributed to their roster's depth. For the first three games, all of the players had a hand in executing plays, raking in offensive power from across the team, and gelling well as a unit.

"We've done a great job so far of working the ball around offensively so that every player's a threat, which is great with a bench as deep as ours," senior guard Colleen Caveney said. Caveney dropped 16 points in the team's most recent win at Castleton, amassing 37 points in just three games.

The Panthers beat both of their competitors in the Middlebury Tip-Off Classic, hosted by Middlebury on Nov. 16-17. Against Lasell, Middlebury posted 50 points in the paint, while amassing 60 rebounds. The blue and white eventually defeated Lasell 81-43 for their first win of the season. The Panthers proceeded to score 63 points against Springfield, with 28 of these points being scored off of the bench. The final score was 63-57.

A few days later at Castleton, Middlebury came out on top 74-30. Notably, the defense forced 14 turnovers, and then managed to accumulate 22 points off of those turnovers.

In addition to producing an effective offensive attack throughout all three games, the Panthers were able to keep a sturdy defense, allowing a total of just 130 points. Once the season hits its stride, the Panthers will be ready to face strong competition within and beyond the NESCAC.

"Our defensive intensity and aggressive transition offense has brought us three wins, and we're looking forward to playing some more teams that will challenge our capabilities under pressure," Caveney said.

On Thursday, the Panthers will be competing against MCLA, hoping to continue their successful start to the season.

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
Emily Wander '21 breezes past a Springfield defender, preparing for a layup, at the Middlebury Tip-Off Classic.

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
Maya Davis '20 demonstrates excellent ball security.

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
Kira Waldman '20 looks to attack the net. The Panthers won the game 63-57 against Springfield.

Men's Squash Looks to Serve Wins This Season

MIDDLEBURY TO HOST NESCAC TOURNAMENT IN FEBRUARY

By ANN MARTIN SKELLY
Staff Writer

Coming off of a successful 2017-18 season, the Middlebury men's squash team is optimistic leading in to this 2018-19 season. At the end of the CSA Team Championships in February, the team clinched a 9-12 record and a top-20 national ranking. Dedicating countless hours to training this preseason and maintaining their 19th spot in national preseason rankings, the group is eager to get started. Although the squad has lost five important seniors, there is no doubt that the three first-years, Teddy Best, Justin Ghaeli and Nate Moll, will hold their own and make a mark.

This very young team consists of no seniors. Instead, they will be led by juniors Nick Bermingham, Jacob Ellen and Thomas Wolpow. Consistently playing in one of the top positions last year, Ellen is expected to be a strong leader on this team. With a respectable 10-10 record while primarily playing in the second spot last season, Ellen is a crucial asset to this team.

William Cembalest is another junior star to watch. Consistently playing at the top position last winter, Cembalest earned his way to the College Squash Association Individual Championships in Washington, D.C. back in March. Junior Jack Kagan was another Panther invited to the Individual Championships where he finished his season. Kagan sat at #3 and had a strong 14-10 record.

Likewise, sophomores John Epley and Wiatt Hinton saw success in their first season as Panthers and are ones to watch out for as they look to repeat their strong records.

The Panthers will begin their season by hosting #16 Navy in the recently dedicated Bostwick Family Squash Center on Friday, Nov. 30. Falling 9-0 to Navy on the road last February, the Panthers are looking forward to seeing them at home. A consistently solid team, Navy is already 9-0 for the season with a 5-4 win over #13 University of Virginia.

After their face-off with Navy, Middlebury will host #27 Tufts at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 1. Like Navy, Tufts has been able to get in a few matches before they face the Panthers. With a 2-0 record so far with wins over Colby and Wesleyan, Tufts cannot be underestimated.

Women's Squash: Ready to Rally

By EMILY BIAN
Senior Writer

The women's squash team is ready to begin a new chapter, with four new faces and three returning seniors. With this comes their usual high expectations. As the team is able to play Division I competition, the upcoming season comes with challenges from quality opposition.

The team appears primed to have a successful season, with a full lineup's worth of players returning. While their loss of their consistent line two is significant, such returnees as Beatrijs Kuijpers '19, Alexa Comai '19 and Anne Glassie '20 are skilled and experienced players who can successfully fill bigger roles. And the experience runs deep throughout the lineup, with high first-season performances from Natalie Madden '21 and Virginia Schaus '21 last year.

Also adding to the mix are some fresh new faces and talent in the new recruiting class. It will be interesting to see how Hadley Barr '22, Gwen Davis '22, Ideal Dowling '22 and Summer Hornbostel '22 rise to the collegiate level and contribute early on. All having played high-level competitive squash back home in various clubs and teams, they are ready to step up and compete on the team.

Entering the season as #15 nationally, the Panthers look towards a great showing at the NESCAC Championship and improved national showing at CSA. Head Coach Mark Lewis is optimistic about this upcoming season and cannot wait to start competing and show their opponents what the team is up against this year.

The first tournament is set for a home game on Dec. 1 against Tufts. The following weekend, they will play another NESCAC rival, where the team will battle it out against Wesleyan. They are enthusiastic to begin, and with the regular season well underway, the women's squash team is looking forward to a successful season.

Swimming and Diving Opens with Two Meets

By ANNA WOOD
Staff Writer

The Middlebury swim and dive teams opened their 2018-19 season on Nov. 17 with an away meet against Connecticut College. Both the men's and women's teams fell to the Camels by 163-99 and 175-119, respectively. The following day, the Panthers traveled to Tufts, where they were defeated by 168-89 on the men's side and 167-116 on the women's side.

The women's team claimed three individual victories against Connecticut College. First-year Audrey Hsi won the 200 backstroke in 2:12.57, out-touching teammate Emma Borrow '22, who finished second in 2:12.75. Hsi also snatched a win in the 200 individual medley, swimming 2:14.46. In the 500 freestyle, Kristin Karpowicz '19 claimed first place, finishing in 5:16.56.

Runner-up swims included Angela Riggins '19 in the 1,000 free (11:11.12), Ellie Thompson '22 in the 100 butterfly (1:01.80), and Erin Kelly '21 in both the 100 and 200 breastroke (1:11.56 and 2:36.49). Borrow, Kelly, Hsi and Maddie McKean '22 swam the 200 medley relay, claiming second with a time of 1:52.48.

The Panther men also took three individual wins. Jack Dowling '19 whipped through the 200 butterfly in 2:00.69 and finished second in the 100 fly (54.35). Corey Jalbert '21 won the 50 freestyle in 22.29, then took second in the 100 free (48.94). Charles Quinn '20 claimed the 200 individual medley (2:02.04), then placed second in the 100 backstroke (55.18).

Other second place individual finishes came from Aska Matsuda '22 in the 1,000 free (10:14.94) and Cody Kim '22 in both the 100 breaststroke (1:01.42) and 200 breaststroke (2:15.44). The 200-yard free relay of Jalbert, Bryan Chang '22 , Keegan Pando '21 and Brendan Leech '19 finished second, stopping the clock in 1:29.29.

The women's diving squad dominated the field in the one meter event. Olivia Rieur '22 won with 210.07 points, while teammate Mary Cate Carroll '21 took second with 205.57 points.

In their second meet of the season against Tufts, both the men's and women's teams earned another trio of individual event victories.

On the women's side, Riggins won the 500-yard freestyle (5:24.92), while Maddie McKean claimed the 50 butterfly in 27.25. Karpowicz was first to the wall in the 200 individual medley title with a time of 2:19.57. The winning 400 free relay team of McKean, Hsi, Courtney Gantt '22 and Kelly finished in 3:46.44.

Second-place efforts came from Thompson in the 200 IM (2:20.04), Sarah McEachern '21 in the 500 free (5:30.69), Borrow in the 50 fly in 28.60, and Karpowicz ended in the 1,000-yard freestyle (11:03.10).

Divers Kacey Hertan '20 and Rieur took first and second in the three meter event, earning 205.80 points and 201.52 points, respectively.

The men's team managed victories in the same events. Matsuda won the 500 freestyle, Dowling finished first in the 50 butterfly (24.85), and Quinn claimed the 200 IM (2:07.36).

Second place finishes came from Max Eihausen '22 in the 500 free (5:10.82), Kim during the 200 IM (2:07.72) and Alex Corda '20 in the 50 fly (24.93).

The Panthers capped off their weekend with a win in the 400 free relay. The team of Jalbert, Chang, Pando and Leech stopped the clock in 3:20.69.

Next up, the swim and dive teams face Amherst in the Natatorium on Dec. 1.

Field Hockey Goes Back for Seconds

TEAM CAPTURES FOURTH NCAA DIVISION III CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE

MARK PALCZEWSKI

The field hockey team huddles around head coach Katharine DeLorenzo after winning the NCAA Division III Championship in Manheim, Pennsylvania.

By BENJY RENTON
Senior Sports Editor

The second-ranked Middlebury field hockey team defeated fourth-ranked and NESCAC runner-up Tufts in a 2-0 win under the Spooky Nook Dome in Mannheim, Pennsylvania. This was the Panthers' fourth NCAA Division III championship win, having previously captured the title in 1998, 2015 and 2017. After defeating Rowan University 4-2 the previous day in the semifinal round, the team cruised to the fourth all-NESCAC final in Division III history, with Middlebury previously defeating Bowdoin 1-0 in 2015.

Over 400 spectators filled the dome for the first indoor championship in Division III field hockey history, with the outdoor playing fields unplayable due to the recent snowstorm. This is the 8th appearance the Panthers have made in the national championship; the team has the fourth-highest winning percentage in tournament history. Last year, the Middlebury defeated top-ranked Messiah 4-0 at the championship round in Louisville, KY. With Messiah knocked out by Johns Hopkins 3-2 in the quarterfinals on November 11, the Panthers sailed past Keene State (8-0), TCNJ (5-1) and Rowan (4-2) leading up to the final game. This is the first back-to-back championship victory for an individual team since Bowdoin's victories in 2007 and 2008.

Over 12 minutes into the game, NESCAC Player of the Year Erin Nicholas '21 scored a goal off a blocked shot against Tufts goalie Andie Stallman. The play leading up to the goal was off a penalty corner by Isabel Chandler '21. Nicholas is the second player in NESCAC history to be named Rookie of the Year as a first-year and Player of the Year as a sophomore.

"Every game feels like it can go either way," head coach Katharine DeLorenzo said to the press earlier in the weekend. "We showed last year against Messiah that it's a huge benefit for them," she said, striving for a high-pressure game.

With 11 minutes remaining in the second half, Nicholas masterfully shot a reverse sweep shot to the right corner of the cage for her 17th goal of the season. With the Panthers up 2-0, the team maintained control towards the championship title.

In a press conference following the game, DeLorenzo attributed the team's success to the team's talent and sharp focus. "We have a team of warriors who understand each phase of the game well enough to really apply themselves and when you put that heart and soul and that tactical understanding together, they stay the course in preparation and in the game," she said.

Collins commented on how much the team has grown since preseason in August.

"In August, we were 24 girls, some knew each other and some didn't, and from then until now it's just a different group honestly. It's really even hard to compare," she said.

Nicholas, the game's only scorer, maintained a calm and relaxed mindset while relying on her teammates.

"I don't come in thinking my goal is going to lead to a point. The goals were a team effort and I couldn't have done it without everyone," she said.

Other members of the team with shots included Marissa Baker '20, Molly Freeman '19, Kelly Coyle '20, Grace Jennings '19, Danielle Brown '21 and Emma Johns '20. Goalie Meg Collins '18.5 finished the game with five saves against the Jumbos. Nicholas, Collins, Emma Johns and Baker were named to the All-Tournament team, while Jennings earned Most Outstanding Player honors.

This was Jennings' third NCAA Division III championship during her four-year collegiate field hockey career.

"One of the things I love about being a forward is that you need the entire team behind you in order to do your job. You can't get the ball unless you have an amazing team behind you," she said.

The Panthers finished their season with a 21-1 overall record and a total of 95 goals.

MARK PALCZEWSKI

Crowding around goalie Meg Collins '18.5, the field hockey team won its fourth NCAA Division III championship title, scoring previous wins in 1998, 2015 and 2017.

MARK PALCZEWSKI

Erin Nicholas '21 scored two goals in the championship game, contributing to her position as the team's highest-scoring player this season.

Women's Soccer Scores Spot in Final Four

By JENNY LANGERMAN
Senior Writer

With a tough 1-0 win over Misericordia University on Nov. 18 and a goal scored by Ellie Greenberg '20, the women's soccer team moves onto the semifinal game this Friday in the NCAA championship tournament in Greensboro, N.C.

Middlebury will face the Washington University Bears in St. Louis to compete for a spot in the final championship game, while Williams and Christopher Newport University and Williams will duke it out for the remaining spot.

The team was in the same position five years ago, during the 2013 season, but ended their journey at the Final Four. There has never been a NCAA finals appearance in Middlebury women's soccer history.

The Panthers are hoping to change that. "This season has been so incredibly special. We said on the first day of preseason that there was an energy on this team that felt like this was going to be our year. And it has been," said senior captain Amanda Dafonte."We still have more to give. We are so proud of ourselves for getting to this point but this team is determined to win it all."

Still, no matter the outcome of Friday's game, having earned this exceptional experience will remain a highlight for the team — the rest is icing on the cake.

"This is such a unique, rare, and special opportunity for all of us. I think we are all just incredibly happy and honored to be going to the Final Four and to be considered one of the top four teams in the country," Dafonte said.

Co-captain Abby Blyler '19 agreed with Dafonte's thoughts. "It's really humbling to be in this position. There are a lot of teams whose seasons have ended, and we have the opportunity to keep playing and to do so at a high level, which I think we all are really grateful for."

"It's not over yet," Blyler said, "and hopefully we'll be able to bring home the national championship."

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Goalie Ursula Alwang '20 celebrates with her teammates after the team wins against Misericordia 1-0.

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Rose Evans '22 fights for the ball against a Misericordia midfielder.

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

The women's soccer team marks a 2-0 victory against Swarthmore on Nov. 17.